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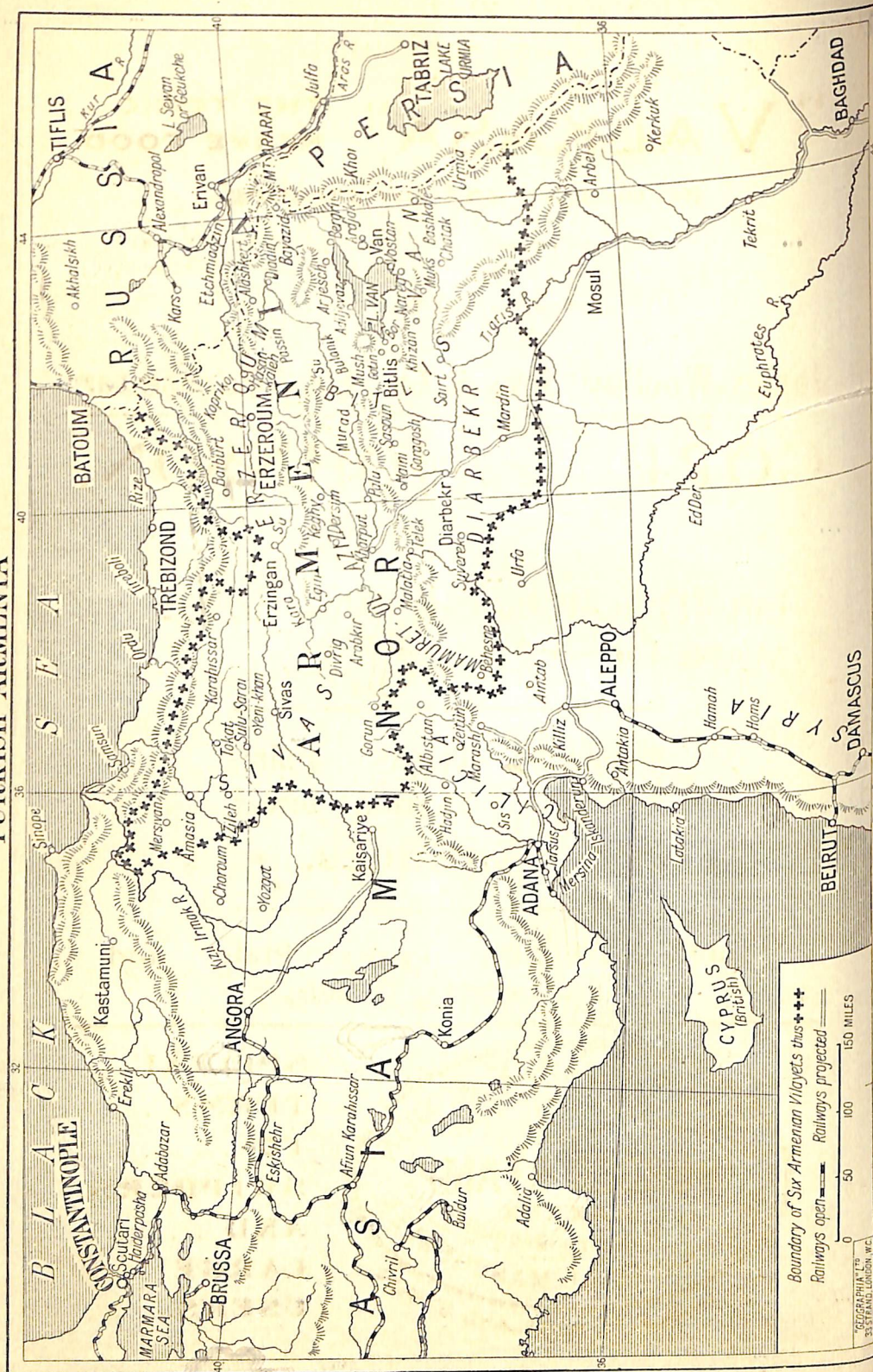
A SEARCHLIGHT ON ARMENIA.

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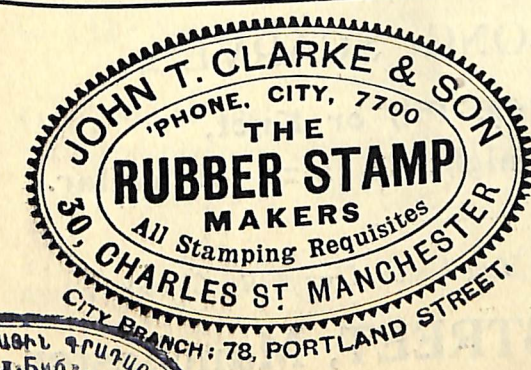
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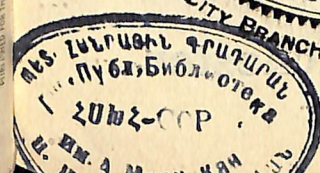
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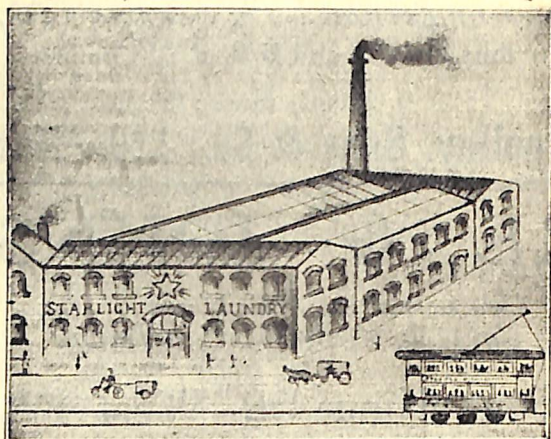
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Current Notes.

The pressure on our space this month is so great that we are compelled to postpone till the November issue a further instalment of the *Orange Book*, and also the report of the "At Home" of the Armenian United Association held on October 10th.

For the benefit of the large number of our correspondents in distant colonies and in foreign parts, we make this early announcement that we are about to move into new quarters, and that all communications likely to reach us after December 20th should be addressed to 47A, Redcliffe Square, London, S.W., and not to our present address. Healthy organisms have a tendency to develop, and we are no exception to the rule. Nearly three years ago we began life with a borrowed address; we then moved into a room which has served us well as an office for close on two years; we are now transferring ourselves to a spacious maisonette all our own. The expansion of the work of the Association, wherein *Ararat* plays no small a part, needs more breathing space, and we have the satisfaction, too, of being able to give accommodation under the same roof to the Armenian Ladies' Guild, a cognate society whose labours for destitute Armenians will be carried on with greater zest under the knowledge that their past peregrinations have ended, and that they have now a settled home for some time to come.

Apart from hard fighting on certain sections, there has been nothing of a striking nature to record from the Western and Eastern fronts during the past month. The position in the Balkans has, however, loomed very large both in the political and military perspective. Perhaps there will yet come a time—as near in the future as we dare hope—when the Balkans will cease to be the eternal cockpit of Europe's ambitions. Now it is Serbia which has taken the place of Belgium in the world's sympathies. Attacked from the north and east by the Germano-Austrian and Bulgarian armies, she has put up a brave, a wonderful fight. But a pathetic cry of despair and appeal for help comes from the Serbian Premier—"in spite of the heroism of our soldiers, our resistance cannot be expected to be maintained indefinitely"—and how are the Allies meeting the situation? In his speech in the House of Lords, rightly criticised in the Press as almost callous in its fatalism for Serbia, Lord Lansdowne gave the number of the British Force landed at Salonika as 13,000. This, as some journal aptly remarked, will do excellently for Serbia's guard of honour towards her extinction.

The failure of British diplomacy in the Balkans and the deadlock in the Dardanelles have brought about somewhat of a crisis in the Government of this country. The resignation of Sir Edward Carson

had to do directly with Near Eastern affairs ; while the recall of Sir Ian Hamilton to submit " his report " is an indication that a change of policy and strategy is an imperative necessity in what has been called the death-trap of the British army in the East. Our diplomatic failure in Bulgaria is patent to the world. King Ferdinand's treacherous dallings ended as it was expected by all far-seeing students of the problem, and at the right moment his troops moved against the Serbians. The equally treacherous attitude of King Constantine and his Cabinet in repudiating the Serbian Alliance, also at a critical moment, was a rude shock to the experts of diplomacy, who must by now be immune to shocks. Bankrupt diplomacy, too late in its action, was reduced to desperate straits. Its half-hearted action with Bulgaria in the matter of bargaining had come to nought, but it was ready now to tempt King Constantine, the Kaiser's brother-in-law, with the surrender of Cyprus if he would only go to the aid of Serbia. But Constantine would have none of it. He is too deeply involved in another direction, and needs watching carefully. We must await further enlightenment from Mr. Asquith's statement promised on November 2nd. In the mean time the reconstruction of the French Cabinet has been hailed with satisfaction, and we rejoice to see included therein M. Denys Cochin, a stout champion of the Armenian cause.

Information from the interior of Armenia is now scarce, for the simple reason that there are not many Armenians left to carry news across the borders, even if they dared such an adventure. Those that are actually holding out are doing so in inaccessible mountain regions, existing through their indomitable heroism. What news we are now getting is from refugees, and from the broken-hearted American missionaries who have returned home to America after being eye-witnesses to the devastation of their work of the past century. Though news is scarce, it apparently does not mean that the Turk is quiescent. The Bloody Assize and the Inquisition pale before his doings, and our latest information coming through Geneva, tells of the burning alive of a distinguished Armenian Archbishop. It is said too that in one district of Armenia alone the executions now reach a daily average of 500, and that public opinion in Switzerland is greatly perturbed at these revelations.

We would draw attention here to the article on *The British Nation and Armenian Relief*, which gives a fairly full account of the proceedings for starting Relief Funds in London and Manchester under their respective Lord Mayors. We express our deep gratitude for the step taken and for the sympathy aroused. The meeting at Manchester was held just at the moment we were going to press, which prevented us giving a full account of the speeches. Lord Bryce, however, brought

the same indictment against the Turks and the Germans as he did in the speech at the Mansion House in London. We will here give a short abstract of the speeches of the other two speakers, Mr. Aneurin Williams, M.P., and Bishop Welldon. The former said :—

" We are in the presence of one of the greatest, if not the greatest massacre, in the history of the world. The people of England had a peculiar responsibility, because we are one of the nations which had sought our supposed political interests at certain times in a way which meant the sacrifice of the Armenian people."

Bishop Welldon, in the course of his speech, said :—

" People talk of the Sublime Porte. I call it the Gate of Hell. There is, however, more than the cruelty of the Turkish Government. There is one Christian Power which could, if it would, put an end to these massacres. That Power is Germany. Among the many infamies gathering about that land, nothing could be more dreadful before the judgment seat of God than that the German Empire is encouraging and enabling the Turkish Government to exterminate a Christian people. That is the charge I bring against Germany."

A unique occasion was the attendance at the evening service in the Manchester Cathedral, on October 17th, of the Archbishop of Armenians in Western Europe, with his chaplain, and a goodly number of the Armenian residents of Manchester. In the course of his sermon the Dean (Bishop Welldon) spoke as follows :—

" Among the manifold horrors of the present war, none, I think, has been more cruel, more inhuman, or, as I may well say, more diabolical, than the blood-stained massacre in Armenia. The Turks are set upon wiping the Armenian people off the face of the earth. That is the literal, absolute truth. Lord Bryce, who knows Armenia as well as any living Englishman, and who is coming, I understand, within a few days to address a public meeting in Manchester upon the Armenian problem, has lately estimated the number of Armenians who have been slain in the past six months as possibly amounting to the appalling total of 800,000 souls.

" It is with profound sympathy, then, that we welcome representatives of the Armenian community within the hallowed walls of this Cathedral to-night. There are many links of great interest between the Armenian Church and our own. Nearly two years ago, when the representatives of the Greek Church and

nation paid a visit to this Cathedral, I ventured to urge upon the congregation the value of studying the historical significance of the Oriental Christian Churches. Most of them, but not all, are united by intercommunion as constituent members of the Holy Orthodox Church of the East, which numbers, I suppose, not far less than 150,000,000 of Christians. Like the Church of England, they are national churches, they are Episcopal Churches, as the presence of an Armenian Archbishop reminds us to-night, and they are even further removed than the Church of England from the Church of Rome, as their whole life has been and still is independent of the Papal See.

"Armenia claims to have been the first among all the nations in recognising Christianity as her national faith. She traces her long history back to the Apostles St. Bartholomew and St. Thaddaeus. She is known all over Christendom as the Church of St. Gregory the Illuminator. For sixteen centuries she has preserved the integrity of her creed, amidst unspeakable oppression and persecution, as the representatives of the Cross against the Crescent. And now, in the hour of her extreme agony, she turns with pathetic confidence to her sister Churches, so near to her in faith and doctrine, so unlike her in their long immunity from persecution, the Churches of Western Christendom. Speaking, then, as I doubt not I may speak, for this great congregation, and for all men and women of true Christian spirit in Manchester, I assure you, my fellow-Christians of Armenia, that we are one with you in heart and soul. We feel the bitterness of your sufferings as though we ourselves suffered with you; and if it is possible that our prayer, our sympathies, and our alms, can bring you any comfort or help at this supreme moment of your national history, they are yours, and they shall be yours until the end."

We drew attention last month to the gift of an aeroplane to the War Office by Mr. Arathoon, an Armenian gentleman in the Straits Settlements, information which reached us in an indirect way. We are now able to give fuller particulars from a Singapore daily paper. Mr. H. S. Arathoon, a partner in and representing the London firm of Messrs. Stephens, Paul & Co., approached the Hon. the Colonial Secretary at Singapore with his offer, which was in turn forwarded to the War Office in London. The latter accepted the generous offer and intimated that "the approximate cost for one of the latest pattern B E 2 C type would be £1,500, and that of a scout £1,300." Mr. Arathoon chose the latter type of craft which has recently proved so eminently successful in reconnaissance work. Funds to cover the cost were at once placed at the disposal of the authorities, and the machine may thus be now already on the effective list of British

aircraft. The vessel will be called the "Armenia." The generous donor has been reluctant throughout to have his patriotic action known, but we feel some satisfaction in joining with others to break through the reserve.

In the recent pronouncements in the House of Lords by Lords Cromer and Crewe, and in the speeches of such authorities as Lord Bryce and Sir Edwin Pears, it has been declared that enlightened Musulman opinion was in no way in sympathy with their Turkish co-religionists with regard to the massacres of Armenians. We are pleased to hear this, and we also rejoice to see a telegram from India to our contemporary *The Daily Telegraph* to the effect that:—

The statements with regard to the Armenian massacres have been read with horror in India, especially by the Mohammedans, who will join the rest of the civilised world in condemnation. That the official control of Constantinople is in the hands of the German representatives has long been realised in India by the Mohammedans, whose attitude has been one of grief that Turkey should have been so betrayed by her administrators.

Moslem opinion is horrified at the massacres, and a publicly expressed condemnation from its leaders is expected in a few days.

All sober-minded people have felt that in the past fifteen months the German nation had plumbed the depths of iniquity to its lowest bottom. It is left to Count Reventlow to give an object-lesson to the world that there are depths yet lower which it is the duty of Germans to fathom. He is irate at American interference regarding Armenian massacres. He writes:—

If the Turkish Government considers it necessary to put down Armenian insurrections and other plottings by any means whatsoever, so that they shall not recur, then those are not "murders" or "atrocities" at all, but merely measures which are both justified and necessary.

He prays that the times are over when every Power had a finger in the Turkish pie, "and they will be as soon as the German Empire resolutely adopts the view that it is purely and solely a private affair of her Turkish ally as to what is done with these insurgent and blood sucking Armenians." He takes to task the *Frankfurter Zeitung* for its mild statement that German consuls in Asia Minor were doing their best to lighten the hardships which may have occurred in the "suppression of the Armenian riots," and calls this a "political mistake." "We Germans are not responsible either to our enemies or to neutral Powers for what the Turks are doing with the Armenians, or what the

German consuls say to it." All this to Count Reventlow is "tactlessness," and the playing into the hands of the American and English press whose desire is to lure Germany into a discussion, and thus sow seeds of discord between her and Turkey. Can callous brutality go further?

We are glad to hear that all the religious and political parties of Armenians in America have united and formed the "Armenian National Defence Union of America." The object of this Union is to co-operate with the Armenian National Delegation, whose President is His Excellency Boghos Nubar Pasha. The address of the Union is P.O. Box 2917, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

The Situation in Armenia.

The martyrdom of Armenia.—Details of the martyrdom of Armenia are coming into light from most trustworthy and reliable sources—from men and women of honour and character of a number of different nationalities, even from Germans and Turks—details of horrible massacres, deportations into the deserts of Arabia, starvation, rape and violence, the tragedy of which is impossible to realise and its horrors difficult to describe. A nation—the first Christian nation in the world—is being systematically and deliberately exterminated, and Christianity is being wiped out from a country which was an early witness to its birth, and all through the instigation of a nation claiming to be the chosen people of God and before the very eyes of the Christian world.

The civilised world is already aroused, specially those who realise the horrible reality of the situation, and many friends of the Armenians, specially those in Christian America, are trying to do their best to find some means of stopping this wholesale carnage and save the remnants of this historic race. How far will they succeed? The murderers have so far defied them and told them to mind their own business. But we do hope that those who have the power and authority will not fail to use them, and will tell the authors of this fearful crime that this is their business and they mean to stop it before it is too late.

Some facts.—The stories of the agonies of a few of these unfortunate people are told by some eye-witnesses. A young Armenian who has escaped death through the kindness of a European, tells of the horrible events which took place in Trebizond, beginning on June 20th. The Government gave a general order for the 14,000 Armenians to get ready to go to Sivas within eight days. The city became panic stricken. They sent telegrams to Constantinople to the Ministers, to the

American, Austrian and Italian ambassadors, asking them to intercede for them. The women and children and the men in separate groups went to the Governor, and in tears begged him to spare their lives. They kissed his feet, offered him all the jewellery they possessed, but without any effect. Gaidzag Arabian, the richest Armenian in Trebizond, offered his entire estate to the Governor to save the Armenians from this terrible fate. He replied, "I cannot help it." First they put all the young men into boats on the pretext of taking them to Samsoun, but after several hours' journey they drowned them all. Then they separated all the men from the women and sent them towards Sivas, but again, after they had left the city and had travelled for 8 or 10 miles, they were killed. The Governor told them that he would take care of the girls and children. He collected them all in a building and invited the Turks to come and make their selections, and so they were all distributed among the Turks. Later on they entered the Armenian houses and plundered them, killing those whom they found hiding in their homes. Thus all the Armenians in Trebizond were disposed of except the orphans in European orphanages. For these a committee was formed by the prominent people in the city—the Governor, who became the chairman of that committee, the American Consul, the Greek Bishop, and others. They found a few Armenian girls, who had escaped the massacre, and decided to take care of them; but the Young Turk party fought against this decision and ordered the orphans to be taken outside the city, where they were massacred.

One eye-witness says that whenever the Russian warships appeared the Turks became alarmed and begged the Armenians to protect them, and he expresses the idea that if they had made more frequent visits none of these outrages would have taken place.

In *Marsovan* the Turks attacked the Girls' College and carried the girls away. The best looking ones were taken by the officers and the rest were distributed among the soldiers. Most of the male population was either massacred or deported. A few of the wealthy families escaped this fate by turning over their property to the Turks and accepting Islam.

In *Harpout* most of the students—boys and girls in the American college—were killed. The professors were put to death in the prisons by indescribable tortures. Prof. Boujikianian, a graduate of Edinburgh University, met his death by the most cruel of methods. His wife, too, was carried away. Professors Tenekejian and Nahigian suffered the same fate as Prof. Boujikianian. Prof. Vorperian while witnessing the tortures of one of his colleagues went mad, and was later killed at Malatia.

In *Sivas* the bishop was killed and 1,500 to 2,000 of the inhabitants were imprisoned. Among these was Mr. M. Franguelian, a graduate of Oberlin College and a teacher in the Sivas Teachers' College. About

the first of July Government placards were posted on the Armenian doors, and all the Armenians were informed that they would have to leave the city within a few days. The deportation started on July 5th and was carried on during the succeeding 10 days. Families were broken up and sent in separate parties. The American missionaries interceded for them, especially for their teachers and students, but their only success lay in obtaining permission for the Protestant families being grouped together. When the large party of the Protestants left, Miss Graffam, the principal of the Girls' High School, begged the authorities to be allowed to accompany them, and permission was finally secured. She bought a carriage, 8 ox-carts and 6 donkeys for some of the students and teachers of the Girls' High School. When they left Sivas they had food to last them for about three or four days. They had not the least idea as to their destination and fate; but after ten days of travel they reached Malatia. Here all the men were separated from the women and children and sent in a different direction; and when they reached a place named Hekim-Khan, they were attacked by armed ruffians and put to death. Among these were teachers of the Sivas Teachers' College: Mr. Roupén Racoubian, who was a graduate of Columbia University and had the chair of Pedagogy in the college; and Mr. H. Belejian, a student of the University of Geneva, who was teacher of Political Economy. The women and children were sent towards the burning deserts of Mosul, there to starve and die in agony. Since then nothing has been heard of them. These are only a few examples of the sufferings which the Armenian population of Turkey is undergoing.

In the western part of Asia Minor, where the population is mostly Turkish, all the Armenians have been annihilated and about 100,000 Greeks deported into the interior of the country. In Angora the Turks have killed the male population of the city and sold the children to the Turks of Konia. In Yenishahr and Afium-Karahissar it is said that about 150,000 Armenians have escaped to the mountains and are trying to defend themselves. But it is evident that unless help reaches them soon they will die of starvation or be killed by the Turks.

In Constantinople the Armenians live in constant fear of their lives. No general deportation has taken place yet, though most of the strangers have been exiled to unknown regions and many of the men have been cast into the prison and some have been put to death. Many are said to have escaped into Bulgaria. As to the number who have reached Bulgaria reports vary from 4,000 to 140,000. This news is not officially confirmed, and we are not in a position to state what the attitude of the Bulgarian Government is toward the Armenian refugees, who have fled from the country of their Turkish ally.

It is reported that some of the Armenian girl students in the American college at Constantinople have fallen into the hands of the Turks. The Turkish Government has tried to force the Patriarch at



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Constantinople to sign a manifesto to the effect that all the news concerning the atrocities in Asiatic Turkey were pure inventions. This he heroically refused to do and consequently was cast into prison. Later reports state that he has been liberated.

About the middle of July the American missionaries at Constantinople realised that unless immediate relief was sent to the refugees that most of them would die of starvation. They telegraphed to some members of the "Rockefeller Foundation" who were at that time in Switzerland, to send help at once. The Foundation sent a committee to investigate the matter and to estimate the extent of help needed. They were refused, however, to go into the interior and were denied all facts concerning deportation and massacres, and the Turkish Government had the impudence to tell the committee that it was the poor Turks and not the Armenians that needed their help.

It is reported that the Sheik-ul-Islam has resigned as a protest against these barbarities, which neither religious nor political parties had the power to stop. Everything is in the hands of a secret committee, whose dictators are Enver Pasha, Talaat Bey and the Chief of Police, Bedri Bey. These are not only the persecutors of the Armenians, but are also the cause of much suffering among the Turks. The Committee of National Defence, which is, of course, directly under the influence of Enver and Talaat, buys up all provisions, etc., at low prices and sells again at exorbitant rates to the people, thus making a fortune out of the people's necessity.

At Smyrna a number of innocent Armenians were hanged. The Austro-Hungarian Consul protested against this ungodly act through his Ambassador at Constantinople, and was told plainly: "If you are our ally, you must not meddle with these affairs."

The refugees in Transcaucasia.—Although an exodus of Turkish Armenians into the Caucasus has been in progress on a small scale ever since the outbreak of war with Turkey, there have been two periods in which the movement assumed such dimensions that it was quite beyond the means of the local Armenian population or relief committees to cope with it. This created a scale and degree of human suffering that defy description. The first great influx took place in December and January last on the retreat of the Russian Caucasian army after their first advance on Erzeroum. A careful census taken on the orders of the Catholicos showed their numbers to have exceeded 60,000. A second and much larger stream of refugees began to pour into the Caucasus on the temporary retreat of the Russians along the Bitlis-Mush-Alashkiert line in July last. The main stream followed the Van-Igdir road. As the work of distributing these unfortunates among the towns and villages of the Caucasus is still in progress, some time must elapse before more or less exact figures can be obtained. The latest report from private Armenian sources speaks of a total exceeding 300,000. While, according to Lord Crewe's statement

based on information received from the British Consul at Batoum, the Governor of one of the Caucasian towns said that 190,000 had passed through his district alone. Etchmiadzin is the principal centre to which most of the refugees made their way to seek refuge and relief. They had to tramp on foot a distance of 200 versts, many of them barefooted, arriving with bleeding and swollen feet, and presenting altogether a frightful picture. The following lines, culled from a report sent to *Mschak*, by one of its correspondents at Etchmiadzin, conveys some idea of their condition :—

“Even the pen of a Zola would fail adequately to describe this heartrending scene. There are at present 30,000 to 32,000 of these *les misérables*, most of them lying about in the open, exposed to the merciless rays of the sun, a penetrating wind that covers them with clouds of dust, and at times drenched by rain, even if it lasts a few minutes, for they are all but naked. The great quadrangle of the monastery is covered with them, and all the passages up to the doors of the monk's cells. Outside they cover the village streets and further to the shores of the Nersesian lake and the adjoining forest. The seminary is crowded with some 3,000 children, mostly orphans. It is an overwhelming scene of wretchedness and horror. Weak and exhausted, half naked and starving, with bodies like skeletons and the marks of deep unfathomable anguish upon their faces, there they lie, one is asleep, another stares vacantly before him, his mind overwhelmed by his woe, a third sighs from the fulness of his grief, a fourth lies pale and silent nearing the end of his suffering, the one next to him is already dead. Here a mother is trying to relieve the pain of her sick child with her kisses and tears, begging the passer-by for medical help. There at the church door an old woman is kissing the stones and praying devoutly with tears and groans. Further again another poor woman is sobbing bitterly, beating her breast and mourning the loss of her husband, married son and son-in-law, who died within two days, leaving her disconsolate in the depths of poverty and misery, with a large family of orphans. And so on without end whichever way you look, a kaleidoscope of human woe, one more heart-rending than the other. It is a feast of mourning by the victims of terror, condemned to death. The deaths have been so numerous of late that it has not been possible to bury them daily, with the result that a regular mortuary had to be established. I paid a visit to the mortuary at the far end of the forest. I found there heaped up as on a battlefield six hundred dead waiting to be buried, among them some that were several days old.”

This is an inadequate picture of the condition of the Armenian refugees, who are incomparably the worst sufferers of all in the great catastrophe that has overtaken the world. The flow of refugees from

the provinces of Van to the towns of Transcaucasia has, however, practically ceased, and their number is gradually decreasing through death due to epidemics of cholera, etc., which are raging in that part of the country. According to the Caucasian papers, the death roll reaches from 130 to 300 a day. The relief committees and the authorities are doing their best with the scanty means at their disposal, and are sending urgent appeals for help. The condition of these unfortunate people is lamentable. The relief committee is not able to feed them all nor provide accommodation for a great many, who have to sleep on the ground without shelter and without food for prolonged periods. Parents have lost their children, husbands and wives are separated from each other, and spend many anxious days searching for each other.

The situation in the region of Van.—According to reports from Russian Armenian papers the condition around Van is very uncertain. The Russian forces who occupied Van have retreated twice, and the Armenians who returned to Van after its second capture have been obliged to flee to Caucasia again, and during their hurried flight several hundreds of them who were not armed were put to death by Turks and Kurds. Those who have arrived at Tiflis tell that all the houses of the wealthy Armenians of Van are burnt to the ground and most of the others plundered.

As to the military movements of the Caucasian Army in that region we quote the following from the Petrograd correspondent of the *Times*, dated Oct. 15th :—

“The efforts of the enemy are particularly noticeable north and south of Lake Van, where they recently sustained notable reverses, but their activity is observable also in the centre, in the direction of Olty.

“The Turks dispose of large forces on the Caucasian front. A fortnight ago their Third and Fourth Armies were arrayed along a line ranging from 15 to 30 miles west of the Russian frontier as far as the parallel of Erzeroum, whence the front trended due south towards the western extremity of Lake Van, passing some score miles north of that lake to Melazgert and extending south of the lake at a point some 30 miles of the city of Van.

“The enemy's forces are distributed approximately as follows :—Eighteen battalions of the First, Second, and Fourth Corps are north of the Chorok. Forty-two battalions of the 10th and 12th Corps are north of the Keriak. Seventy battalions of the 9th and 11th Corps are astride the Arak north of Karakepri. Forty battalions of the 13th Corps are astride the Euphrates and north of Lake Van. Thirty battalions of the 13th Corps with the Kurds are south of the lake.



"Large allowances must, of course, be made as to the effective strength of these battalions. Moreover, the persistent watch of the Russian Black Sea Fleet has long hampered the transport of supplies. According to the reports of Russian correspondents, the Turkish armies are ill supplied with food, clothing, arms, and munitions. Nevertheless, the task of the Grand Duke is by no means an easy one. The Turks have repeatedly shown extraordinary powers of endurance.

The fate of Sassoun.—From the scanty news coming through from the interior it is understood that the heroic resistance of the brave Sassounlis is at an end. Two of their heroic leaders, Roupen and Papazian, are reported to have pierced the Turkish line and reached Kara Kilisse in Persia, with 25 comrades, whence they have departed for Igdir.

The refugees in Egypt.—The 5,000 Armenian refugees who were rescued by French cruisers and brought to Port Said, were nearly all from Suadiyeh, west of Antioch on the Mediterranean Sea, and a few villages in the vicinity. Their leader, the Rev. Father Abraham Der Kaloustian, of Yaghoun Olouk, gives the story of their heroic escape. About the beginning of July they received a letter from the Turkish Government at Antioch directing them to sell everything they had and to get ready for deportation within seven days. Father Abraham had heard of the fate of those deported from other cities; so he persuaded his people to go to the *massif* of Djebel Moussa and resist the attacking Turkish force. They had 150 Martini rifles and a number of sporting rifles, wherewith they resisted heroically 3,500 regular soldiers and a large body of *bashibazouks* for 55 days. They lost about 15 to 20 men, but the Turks lost no less than one thousand. When they saw that they were running short of ammunition and food, they sent messengers to the sea shore with instructions to take boat if possible and proceed to Cyprus for help. Fortunately a French cruiser was sighted near the gulf of Alexandretta; and a large flag with a red cross on it was hoisted as a signal to the warship. The French sailors, on seeing the flag, drew nearer to the shore to make inquiries. When it was discovered that the signallers were Armenians seeking assistance, the cruisers were at once brought to their rescue.

The French bombarded the Turkish positions, and the young Armenians, by formation into two lines, kept up a fire against the Turks until all the refugees were safely down the mountain side, when they were embarked on the three French warships. It is even reported that some of the young men remained behind to save their cattle, which they succeeded in bringing with them to Egypt. The sailors showed great hospitality to the refugees, giving up to them everything they needed. The refugees are now living under tents in a large camp at Port Said, and are under the protection of the British Government in Egypt.

G. H. PAELIAN.

An Open Reminder to Djavid Bey, Turkish Minister of Finance.

It may be that you avoid reading the harrowing accounts of the sufferings of the Armenians caused by you and your colleagues, but I will take special care that a copy of this magazine reaches you. In time of war reminders and appeals do not carry much weight; nevertheless, I am addressing this to you because, in the first place I know you personally, and secondly you have not been distinguishing yourself in your interviews on the anti-Armenian campaign.

Remember for a moment your generous appreciation of the Armenian people—people of whom you spoke highly on that July night in 1911 when we were at Tadvan on Lake Van. It was in an enthusiastic manner that you referred to their loyalty and to their usefulness, and you were looking forward to a bright future for us all. Now, four years later, you have declared war upon our absolutely unoffending and helpless women and children, and you have drenched with the blood of innocent civilians the shores of Lake Van, the beauty of which you were admiring on that night to which I refer. You then talked of Talaat Bey, Enver Bey and others as your bosom friends, who would never take a single step in action without mutual consultation.

Now there is a chance for you to put to a manly test those lofty principles, which you were laying down to me on that July night, by stopping the ruthless war upon women and children and unoffending Armenians generally. You seem to forget the potentialities lying deep in the soul of an entire race in despair, the surviving members of which, though aching in heart for the moment, and unable to do anything to help their martyred fellow-countrymen, will yet emerge from this period of storm and stress and will meet you again—yourself, Enver Bey and all the rest. You seem to forget that all human conventions of mutual responsibility and social good-will are founded on a basis of reciprocal respect; and if you break this down on your side, you can hardly expect the other side to maintain it.

If you pause for a moment and look at the future in historical perspective, you will stay the direct or indirect murder of helpless Armenians.

ARSHAK EFFENDI.

A worthy Labourer in the Field of Missions.

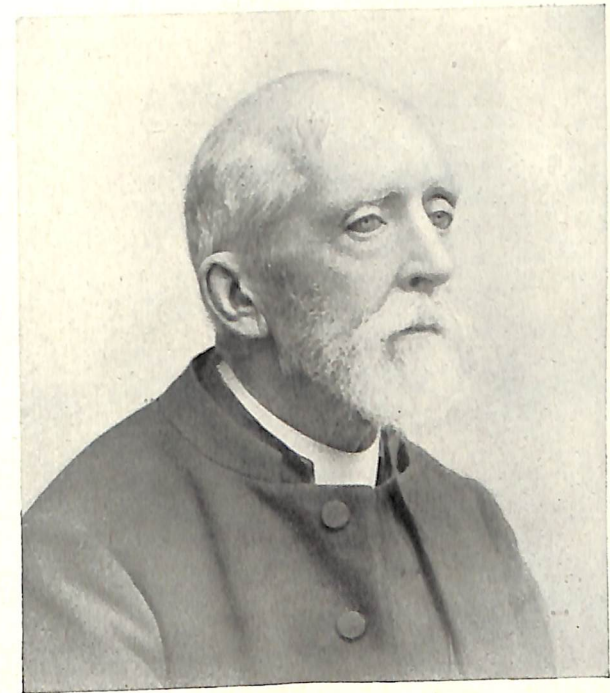
At this period of stress and anxiety through which the Armenian nation is passing, it is well that we should prominently bring before our readers the work of one who has spent the most eventful years of his life in close contact with Armenians, and who has shown a sympathetic interest in the Holy Apostolic Church of Armenia. By his position in connection with the Anglican Bishopric in Jerusalem, and St. Luke's Mission in Galilee, he has upheld the time-honoured tradition of the Anglican Church for shedding light in dark places without incurring the suspicion of enticing away from one Christian fold to another the adherents of a Church which holds in proud honour her origin and her essential purity of doctrine.

In our last issue we gave a review of Dr. Dowling's book, *The Armenian Church*, and now we have the pleasure of introducing his portrait to our readers, with the following concise biographical sketch.

The Reverend Theodore E. Dowling, D.D., is the second son of the late Reverend John Goulter Dowling, M.A., Rector of St. Mary de Crypt, Gloucester, and was born on October 15th, 1837. After finishing his course at St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, in 1860, he proceeded to New Brunswick, where he was ordained deacon in Fredericton Cathedral, 1861, and priest in 1862. From 1868 to 1871 he was elected Rural Dean of Fredericton, and in 1884, Rural Dean of St. John, New Brunswick, Canada.

After leaving the Diocese of Fredericton, on account of the ill-health of his wife, he became attached to the Anglican Bishopric in Jerusalem, occupying the honorary posts of Domestic and Examining Chaplain to Bishop Blyth, and later Canon Residentiary of St. George's Collegiate Church, Jerusalem, Commissary for Eastern Church Inter-course within the Anglican Bishopric in Jerusalem, and Archdeacon in Syria. During this period he was for three and a half years Chaplain of the Crimean Memorial Church in Constantinople.

Wide intercourse with human races always betokens a broad-mindedness and tolerance which are rarely found among those who choose an insular life, and in this respect Dr. Dowling was fortunate in having travelled extensively both in the East and the West. We have already seen how he commenced life in Canada. From thence to Jerusalem was a far cry. In Turkey, he has visited, besides the capital, Aintab, Nicæa, and Petra, as well as other important centres of Asia Minor. His Russian peregrinations include such places as Odessa, Kieff, Moscow and Petrograd; and he is familiar with Alexandria, Cairo, Assouan, the Soudan and Athens. He has paid



The Reverend Theodore E. Dowling, D.D.,

formerly Archdeacon in Syria.



two visits to Australasia, has spent a month in Ceylon and five months in India. While on the Western Continent he has travelled through Mexico and nearly all the chief cities of the United States of America. It is a marvellous record of self-education, as travel invariably is, undertaken amidst the absorbing interest of his Christian labours, and the fruits it has borne are visible in his written works.

Such a record usually indicates a prolific writer, and this Dr. Dowling has accomplished. Among his published works we have already noticed *The Armenian Church*, which appeared in 1910. It is dedicated to Matteos Izmirlian, *Servant of Jesus Christ, and by the unbounded Will of God Chief Bishop and Catholicos of all Armenia, Supreme Patriarch of the National, Beloved, and Holy See at the Sacred Apostolic Cathedral Church of Etchmiadzin, in Ararat*. Then we have his *Sketches of Georgian Church History*, which appeared in 1912. The third edition of his *The Orthodox Greek Patriarchate of Jerusalem* was published in 1913. Though most people at his age would rest from their labours well accomplished, Dr. Dowling has just published in collaboration with Edwin W. Fletcher, F.S.A., *Hellenism in England: A Short History of the Greek People in this Country from the Earliest Times to the Present Day*, with an Introduction by His Excellency Dr. Gennadius, Greek Envoy at the Court of St. James's. It should be noted here that Dr. Dowling is no mean authority as a numismatologist, and his leisure in Palestine, when not absorbed in his own duties and the study of the Armenian Church, was devoted to bringing together a valuable collection of Jewish, Syrian and Phœnician coins.

In taking leave of Dr. Dowling, whose *patience, gentleness and friendliness*, in the words of the late Bishop of Salisbury, have made his personal and familiar intercourse with those connected with the Eastern Churches so rich in results, we wish him many more years of useful work in his retirement from active duties. His is a nature which abhors idleness, and we trust that some of his energy will be devoted to bringing about a closer union between the Anglican and Armenian Churches.

The British Nation and Armenian Relief.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER.

The City of London is distinguished for its charities—it is the heart of this great Empire which is thrilled and agonised when a catastrophe occurs—and the mere fact that its Lord Mayor has signified his approval of a scheme for bringing relief to humanity in the throes of despair, stamps such a scheme as one worthy of support by the nation. Fabulous sums have thus been brought together in this

empire of wealth to allay human suffering, and the latest suppliant is Armenia. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Sir Charles Johnston, the Lord Mayor, for his noble initiative in starting the Armenian Refugees (Lord Mayor's) Fund, and we trust that, in spite of heavy calls already made on this nation, the response will be such as to carry substantial relief to the mass of humanity in the Caucasus, whose condition baffles description.

MANSION HOUSE MEETING.

A largely attended meeting was held at the Mansion House on Friday afternoon, October 15th, 1915, to inaugurate the National Fund for the Relief of the Armenians in Turkey.

THE LORD MAYOR (SIR CHARLES JOHNSTON) presided, and was supported on the platform by Viscount Bryce, Cardinal Bourne, the Bishop of Oxford, Sir J. Compton-Rickett, M.P., Sir Edwin Pears, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., the Rev. Harold Buxton, Mr. Noel Buxton, M.P., Lieut.-Col. G. M. Gregory, V.D., and others.

Letters of apology for inability to be present were read from a number of distinguished people, including the Prime Minister.

Mr. BALFOUR wrote: I earnestly hope the meeting will be successful. In the midst of the horrors of this war nothing, I think, is more horrible than the treatment meted out to the wretched Armenians by the Turkish Government, who claim to represent progress and reform. It is a crime which surpasses the worst deeds of their predecessors. As they are entirely dependent for support on the Germans, the latter, surely, could if they would, put an end to such a disgraceful condition of affairs.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY wrote: The appalling facts speak loudly for themselves, and it is clearly impossible to exaggerate their gravity or the urgency of the needs of the survivors of these wicked massacres. History presents, I suppose, scarcely any, if any, parallel to these frightful scenes—the attempted obliteration of a people. The responsibility which rests on those who are directly or indirectly responsible is indeed fearful in the sight of God and of man.

THE LORD MAYOR having explained the object of the meeting, said: The money raised in England will be sent to the British Consul-General at Moscow for the relief of the refugees in the Caucasus. The massacres in Western Asia have been directed primarily against the Armenians, but to some extent they have also been directed against other non-Mohammedan peoples. About a quarter of a million Armenians are said to have taken refuge in the Russian Caucasus, where they are in a lamentable state of want and disease. The Russian Armenians are active in the relief of these refugees, and no distinction is made on account of race or religion. Besides those who have fled into Russia, there are about 4,000 who have reached Egypt, and it is

reported that 140,000 have been permitted to leave Constantinople for Bulgaria. The Young Turks appear to have made a deliberate plan to exterminate the Armenians in the greater part of Turkey. The number of Armenians who have been done to death within the last five months is variously estimated at between 500,000 and 800,000. This is probably the greatest massacre in any land or of any race which has ever been recorded. Twenty years ago, when a hundred thousand perished in the massacres organised by Abdul Hamid, this country raised £80,000 to relieve the victims, and it is hoped that even in this time of war, a large sum will be raised for the sufferers from this great crime. The people of the United States have already sent £20,000 to their Ambassador at Constantinople for the Armenians.

VISCOUNT BRYCE moved a resolution in the following terms:—
“That this meeting expresses its sympathy with the Armenian people of Turkey and its detestation of the unprovoked outrages perpetrated upon them and upon other victims by the Turkish Government—outrages unparalleled in modern history, whereby hundreds of thousands of innocent persons, including women, children, and old men, have been put to death and in many cases tortured, while other women have been seized for Turkish harems and children enslaved and forcibly converted, all this having been done in pursuance of a plan for the extermination of Armenians throughout the Turkish Empire.” His Lordship said: The last time I appeared on this platform was eighteen months ago at a meeting celebrating one hundred years of peace between England and America. Since that time two international crimes have been perpetrated—far worse than anything that has happened during the last four centuries. The first was the invasion of Belgium. We thought when we heard what had happened in Belgium that wickedness and faithlessness could go no further. But the massacres which have just happened all over Asia Minor and Armenia, from the frontiers of Persia in the East to the Sea of Marmora in the West, have been far worse not only than what happened in Belgium, but worse than anything that I know that has happened in history since the days of Tamerlane. Armenia has a history extending back 3,000 years. They embraced Christianity sixteen centuries ago and have ever since clung tenaciously to their faith, in spite of the persecutions first of the fire-worshipping Kings, afterwards the Saracens, and still later on the Turks. They are by far the most intelligent, progressive, enlightened and industrious people of Western Asia. These are the people whom the gang of ruffians who call themselves the Government of Turkey, have set out to exterminate, deliberately, of set purpose. Clearly it was not the interest of the Turks to commit such a crime, but in such a case they care little for their own interests and the prosperity of their own country, or for the dictates of justice and humanity. Their motive is fear and jealousy of the superior intelligence and prosperity of the Armenians, who they think, might some day supplant them in their position of dominance in Western Asia. The plan to

exterminate the people of Armenia was formed long ago by the Sultan Abdul Hamid, when he said that the way to get rid of the Armenian question was to get rid of the Armenian people. He put to death more than 100,000 of the Armenian race, but these successors of his have gone still further and in their attempt to exterminate the Armenian race, have spared neither men, women nor children. The Germans have endeavoured to propagate the story that the Armenians have themselves provoked these massacres by risings and conspiracies, but the German Government have not the slightest foundation on which to rest such a statement. The Armenians remained quiet at the outbreak of the war. They have never risen or taken any hostile step whatever, except when they have been attacked by the Turks. The statement is one of the numerous falsehoods which have been so assiduously spread during the past twelve months and which make us feel that the German Government, however capable it may be in the process of war, is no less an adept in mendacity. Last May, orders were sent out from Constantinople to the Governors of Provinces that the whole of the Armenian population was to be cleared out from the towns and villages. There was no outbreak of religious fanaticism on the part of the Mohammedan population. It was a Government measure, deliberately planned and deliberately carried out. The men were murdered and the women and children stripped of everything they possessed, even in many instances of their clothes, were formed into a sort of caravan and driven out into the wilds under a burning sun. They were driven by guards with whips. Some fell by the way and many women went mad and threw away their children in despair. Probably more perished through this transportation than were massacred in the towns and villages. Women were tortured, some were tied together and thrown into a river, and many women and children were sold to Mohammedans as slaves. The whole course of the caravan was marked by a line of corpses. The Italian Consul at Trebizond said that the whole Armenian population of from eight to ten thousand people, was put into boats, taken out to sea and drowned. A few survivors from various districts succeeded in escaping into the mountains, and a few of those who were driven into the Arabian deserts have managed to survive. Children were seized and sold in the markets. At one place they were sold at from 8s. to 9s. each, and women were either sold or taken by Turkish officials for their own harems. The Turks wanted to root out the whole nation, and consequently their cruelty took in some cases a form quite as bad as that of murder or of exile. Some of the women were as highly educated and as refined as those in this room. Imagine their lot under such circumstances. There is only one Power that can stop these massacres, and that is Germany. Whether, or how much, the German Government had been a party to these matters, I have no evidence, and it would not be right for me to say anything upon it, except one thing. This can be said with certainty; the German Government could have

stopped the massacres if it had so desired, and therefore we ought to give the widest possible publicity to these facts in order to evoke the opinion of the civilised world and if possible to bring to bear upon the German Government such a force of opinion as will make it step in now and say to the Turks: "These massacres must cease." Let us in this country do our best to save the last remnants of this ancient nation from perishing utterly from the earth. (Cheers.)

CARDINAL BOURNE, in seconding the resolution, said: The aid of every neutral Power ought to be obtained to prevent a recurrence of the outrages. The excuse put forward by neutrals for their irresponsiveness to appeals that they should protest against various horrors of the war, have usually been that they had no means of discovering whether the allegations were true, but in the case of the Armenians not even the German people have ventured to call in question, to any large degree at any rate, the truth of the allegations that have been made against the Turks with regard to their doings in Armenia. They will tell us, perhaps, that we are over-sentimental and that such things must happen in time of war, but they will not venture to deny the truth of what is alleged. I was asked by the Committee in London to address an appeal to the Holy See, and I was told, what I expected, that there had been many such appeals, that the Pope had sent a personal letter to the Sultan, and that nothing had been left undone that could be done, in order to bring the pressure of moral opinion to bear upon the Turkish Government, and to check these outrages.

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD said: Never have I felt so loathe to speak. Words seem inadequate. The moral foundations of the world are out of course. But it is well that we should meet to express our detestation of deeds which stain, not only the guilty nation, but the whole history of our human nature. England has a special responsibility in this matter, because in the past it, to quote an historic phrase, "put its money on the wrong horse." If England had not buttressed the fallen power of Turkey, in a mistaken sense of the supposed political exigencies—for many years if we had not stood out and barred the way for Russia when it would have fulfilled its mission as the liberator of the Christian populations of Turkey—if we had not done these things years ago, the whole course of history—no one can deny it—in the south-east of Europe might have been different. I suppose to-day we are bearing the burden of these old transgressions—for I think they were transgressions as well as mistakes.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

SIR J. COMPTON-RICKETT proposed the resolution in favour of constituting a Lord Mayor's Fund.

SIR EDWIN PEARS, seconding, said: I am convinced that the great majority of the men of light and leading in the Moslem community are with us in protesting against the outrages in Armenia.

There is nothing in the teachings of Islam which tolerates the massacre of innocent people. I am convinced that the Germans have been at the back of these atrocities, which have been well organised and more complete and more thorough than those of Abdul Hamid. I am certain that they have been carefully organised by the Germans themselves, because the Turks are not capable of such organisation. Fanaticism among the lower classes in Turkey has been decreasing during the last 20 years.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., said: This building has played an important part in bringing relief and comfort to the suffering throughout the world, and it has occurred to me that I might call this great and spacious and opulent hall the "house of the hundred sorrows"—a house to which the sorrow of the world has never appealed in vain. The question of Armenia is passing out of the sphere of words into the sphere of deeds, and however great the anxieties that the new developments in the East of Europe may cause in all our hearts, at least at the back of them lies the hope that our arms will bring freedom to Armenia. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

MR. ANEURIN WILLIAMS, M.P., next proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for presiding and granting the use of the Mansion House. He mentioned that several Societies and Committees had existed in England for some years working in various ways to help the Armenians, and that more than one of those organisations had been sending out relief for the victims in recent months. Now a Committee had been formed containing members from several of those organisations, in order to raise a National Fund and transmit money wherewith to save the lives of as many as possible of the refugees. He expressed the conviction that the Turks would not succeed by means of these massacres, terrible as they were, in ending the Armenian race; any more than they succeeded, a hundred years ago, in ending the Greeks when by massacres they had reduced their number in the Peloponnesus to about 300,000 people.

LIEUT.-COL. G. M. GREGORY seconded this proposal, and said: It is with intense personal feeling that I second the vote of thanks proposed by my friend Mr. Aneurin Williams. The representative of this greatest city of the world, in keeping with its ancient and worthy traditions, has inaugurated this day a work of humanity and charity which those, who are conversant with the details of the need, consider it to rank as one of most pressing urgency; and you must have been convinced of this from what you have heard from those distinguished gentlemen who have supported the Lord Mayor to-day.

It is but meet and right that the proceedings here should not terminate without a voice of gratitude being uttered by an Armenian. And for that reason I stand here now as the mouthpiece not only of

the Armenians of London, but of the stricken Armenians of Turkey, and of all Armenians scattered throughout the world. They will all hear of these proceedings with comfort and with gratification beyond measure, for their own efforts to meet the case, great as they have been, are wholly inadequate; their ties to the British nation, the mother of liberty, will be strengthened, in spite of all past political waverings; and they will be assured that the loving and Christian assistance for their despairing kinsfolk comes from human hearts and with the sanction and approval of the Chief Magistrate of this City, a sure testimony that the cause is good and the results of the appeal secure.

I know there is considerable doubt in the minds of the public as to who the Armenians are. The name has been connected with the word massacre for some decades now, and the man in the street, when he hears one of those words naturally listens for its sequence—and then Armenia seems such a long cry from London—the matter is brushed aside as a mere incident in a far-off land which has to do with diplomats and Foreign Offices, and concerns not the public.

My Lord Mayor,—Armenia has a civilisation stretching back to beyond the times of the Romans; she has a history, a literature, her own art and architecture; hers is the oldest National Church in Christendom, and she claims to have the "Queen of Versions" of the Bible—but her isolated mountainous country, the Switzerland of the East, has unfortunately been on the high road of invading hordes, and Europe has to be thankful to her for stemming or breaking the brunt of these barbaric inroads time and again. While Belgium has earned a similar honour recently, Armenia has shed her blood freely for centuries in defence of her faith and in defence of her soil—indeed, a well-known writer has called her history "one long martyrology." And then again, for the benefit of the man in the street, we have recently been given the character by a Kultur-stricken gentleman, of being unreliable, blood-thirsty and riotous. I trust you see nothing of inherited blood-thirstiness in me. On the other hand, we have the evidence of the United States that Armenians are the most industrious of colonists, and philanthropists in that country are striving at this moment to raise funds to get over to the States as many of the derelict Armenians of Turkey as they will be permitted to get hold of, to make of the waste places of the western States a smiling garden, such as previous Armenian emigrants have already done. Here you have two conflicting views, one from the fevered brain of a war enthusiast, the other from the calculating judgment of a progressive people; and I know which you will choose, and how you will dispense your charity.

And now, My Lord Mayor, speaking for the Armenian nation, I second, with a deep and lasting sense of gratitude, the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Aneurin Williams, thanks to yourself for the summoning of this meeting and for the inauguration of the Armenian

Refugees (Lord Mayor's) Fund, thanks to those distinguished gentlemen who have supported you to-day with their speeches, and thanks to the entire British nation for the sympathy which they have exhibited at the news of the unparalleled and terrible plight in which my unhappy nation has been placed.

Up to the date of our going to press, the Lord Mayor's Fund has remitted to His Holiness the Catholicos at Etchmiadzin, through the British Consul-General at Moscow, the sum of £5,000. Contributions are coming in daily, and we would refer readers to our advertisement pages, where full particulars will be found of the composition of the Committee, and instructions how and where to send contributions.

Important steps for meeting Armenian distress have also been taken in Manchester. A strong Committee was promptly formed for collecting funds, printed appeals were circulated, a public meeting was arranged for the evening of Oct. 25th to be addressed by Lord Bryce and others (the report of which we regret we are unable to include in full), a general collection on the tramways was authorised by the Manchester Corporation, and realised over £200; while the Dean of Manchester preached a special sermon on behalf of Armenians at the Cathedral, where there were present the Armenian Archbishop, accompanied by his chaplain, and a goodly number of the Armenians of Manchester. A short summary of Dr. Welldon's sermon will be found elsewhere in these pages. We may also state here that a substantial result of the preliminary campaign in Manchester has been the remitting of £2,500 to the London Lord Mayor's Fund.

A Manchester correspondent sends us the following particulars of the local doings:—

"Big-hearted Manchester has heard the cry of distress of sorrowing Armenia, and taken steps to come to the help of the tens of thousands of refugees flying from their devastated homes into Russian territory.

"At the invitation of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Daniel McCabe, a conference was held at the Town Hall on Oct. 1st, by a number of eminent Manchester citizens to consider the matter.

"The Lord Mayor, who was in the chair and whose sympathy with the sufferings of the Armenian nation was unmistakable, explained the greatness and urgency of the need for help and suggested that a committee should be formed forthwith and an appeal be made to the Manchester public for funds. Several of the gentlemen present gave vent to their feelings of horror at the unparalleled atrocities perpetrated in Armenia, and expressed their readiness to start a fund, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to be called 'The Armenian Relief Fund,' to alleviate the sufferings of the refugees.

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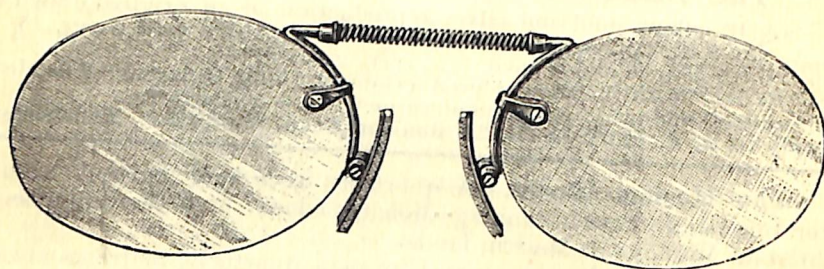
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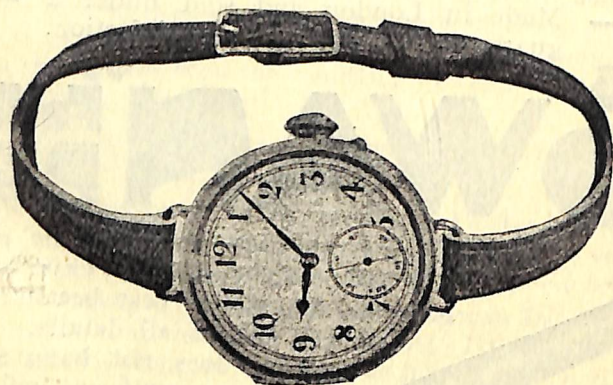
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"Mr. Tootal Broadhurst, the head of one of the largest of home trade houses in Manchester, and whose patriotic and philanthropic activities have made his name a household word in Lancashire and beyond, consented to be the chairman of the committee, and Mr. Theodore Crewdson, J.P., an old and cherished friend of Armenia, the hon. treasurer, while Mr. G. F. Burditt, J.P., in spite of very urgent claims upon his time, kindly undertook the onerous duties of hon. secretary."

A full list of those on the management of the Fund is subjoined :—
President : The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Manchester. Chairman of Committee : E. Tootal Broadhurst, J.P. Hon. Treasurer : Theodore Crewdson, J.P. Hon. Secretary : G. F. Burditt, J.P., 18, Lloyd Street, Manchester (Tel. Central 1466). Secretaries : Marshall, Gibbon & Co., Chartered Accountants, 38, Barton Arcade, Manchester. Bankers : Williams Deacon's Bank Ltd., Mosley Street, and Branches. Committee : Miss Brooke, Mr. R. H. Brooks, Mr. E. Tootal Broadhurst, Mr. R. Norton Barclay, Mr. G. F. Burditt, Mr. J. K. Bythell, Mr. Theodore Crewdson, Prof. R. S. Conway, Mr. H. W. Freston, Mr. J. H. Greenhow, Miss Isabel M. Heywood, Mr. C. T. Needham, M.P., Rev. J. E. Roberts, Mr. R. Robinson, Sir Wm. Stephens, Sir Frederick H. Smith, Bart., Mr. Alfred Simpson, Mr. Thomas Stuttard, Mr. J. H. Swallow, Mr. G. W. Thompson, Mr. Councillor Watson, Right Rev. Bishop Welldon.

The following is the wording of the appeal which was issued :—

At a Meeting held in the Manchester Town Hall on Friday last, at which the Lord Mayor (Alderman D. McCabe) presided, it was decided to open a Fund for the relief of suffering Armenians under Turkish rule.

The details of the fiendishly complete plan for the wiping out of a nation, including the slaughter of the young men, the abduction of the girls, and the exile of the old, have recently been described in the press. They have awakened in Britain a deep sympathy for this ancient persecuted Christian people, which seeks passionately for an outlet.

What practical help can be given to these Armenian people ? Politically none, for only Germany can intercede successfully with Turkey on their behalf ; and, judging by the actions of Germany throughout this war, there is nothing to hope from that direction. But assistance can be given to that section of the people who have succeeded in escaping. A great and increasing number are streaming as refugees across the Russian frontier into the Caucasus. A recent estimate put the number at over a quarter of a million. Most of these are entirely ruined and destitute, and they have the rigours of a winter in a wild land to face.

The purpose of the Manchester Committee in opening this Relief Fund is to collect money and remit same to the London Committee under the Presidency of the Viscountess Bryce, which is already in touch with these distressed people. The winter is upon them and assistance is required immediately, so we trust that the response to this appeal will be quick and generous; for neither Servia, nor Poland, nor even Belgium, has presented a case of more poignant suffering than does Armenia.

Cheques should be made payable to Mr. Theodore Crewdson (the Hon. Treasurer), and sent to the Williams Deacon's Bank Ltd., Mosley Street, Manchester, or Branches, who have kindly consented to receive subscriptions.

Russian and British Policy Towards Armenia.

(Continued from page 428, Vol. II.)

III.

ARMENIA.

The object of the two previous articles under the above heading was to give a clear exposition documentally of the traditional policies of England, the Germanic Power, and Russia, towards the Ottoman Empire in general, during the last one hundred and fifty years; and those policies, as we have seen, have persisted on their own respective lines unchangeably up to the recent European upheaval.

Now, before particularising the question of the Turkish Empire relatively to Armenia, there is one great point which we must fully bear in mind: that is, when we speak of the policy of this or that Great Power towards this or that small nation, it is to no purpose to deceive ourselves and others in the belief that it is, indeed, the fate of the small nation itself which truly represents the object of interest whereby the policy of those Great Powers is shaped; for the policy of any and every Great Power is mainly actuated by self-interest in the territory occupied by the small nation, and in no way formulated purely in the interest of the small nation concerned. The expression of such a view may certainly not be very palatable to the credulity of public opinion, but it is nevertheless a plain truth which not every one seems capable of perceiving.

So, upon this theory, the policy of England towards the territories involving the Armenian provinces in Turkey may be considered as old as that particular formula, "the territorial integrity of the

Ottoman Empire." The underlying motive of diplomacy, in originating this artful principle of integrity, may be found in the fact that the Great Powers were greedy, and they were jealous of seeing each other, and more especially Russia, bent on occupying Turkish territory.

As to the historical land of Armenia, the policies of England and Russia have been those of opponents; and these policies have no doubt been indirectly responsible for the long-continued miseries and massacres of the Armenian people. For, it has been nothing else but the antagonism amongst the Great Powers which not only has from time to time misled the Christian subjects of the Sultan in their expectations, but it has continued to give encouragement to the Turks in their fanaticism to outrage those Christian subject-races in turn and periodically during the last hundred years.

The importance of the position of Armenia was a recognised factor in history long before the Christian era, and continues so until our times; and this political importance is perhaps by no one so clearly defined as by the late H. F. B. Lynch, the great European writer on Armenia. He says:—

... England cannot afford to remain indifferent to a question which involves such contingencies as these. For what is the plain significance of an occupation by Russia of Armenia? It means no less than her complete supremacy in the nearer East, by which I mean the countries which extend between India and the Mediterranean. Throughout history the geographical position of the country has invested it with a special importance in the politics of this part of Asia. It was not to gain an Eastern conquest that the statesmen of the Roman Empire extended Roman influence to Armenia; and it was not to settle within her upland plains that the Seldjuks, and the Mongols, and the hordes of Tartars and Turks swept westwards across them from the steppes beyond the Caspian Sea. The strategical value of the country consists in its character as a land of passage and in the command which its possession ensures of the roads to the south, to the west, and to the east. The Romans who held Asia Minor and the fertile lowlands through which the Euphrates and Tigris flow, could ill afford, in spite of the comparative weakness of their Eastern rivals, to see others paramount there. In our times the arguments which have operated through history have become more momentous than before.*

But even before the Armenian question had ever officially come into existence, similar views were pointed out by British diplomatists in somewhat stronger terms. The following extract from a despatch by Sir Henry Layard, British Ambassador in Constantinople at the

* *Vide ARMENIAN QUESTION*, by H. F. B. Lynch, 1894, p. 6.

time of the Russo-Turkish war, has special reference to the contemporary importance of the country in relation to the position of England in the East :—

Should Russia desire to annex at this time any of the European provinces of Turkey, European interests would probably be called into play, and she would be prevented from carrying out her intentions. . . . But as regards the acquisition by her of territory in Asia Minor, the case is different. *The interests of England would then be alone concerned.* It would probably signify little to the rest of Europe whether Russia retained Armenia or not. But England has to consider the effect of the annexation to Russia of this important province upon the British possessions in India. Russia would then command the whole of Asia Minor and the great valley of the Euphrates and Tigris, which would inevitably fall into her hands in course of time. Persia, moreover, would be placed entirely at her mercy.*

It is too obvious then, from the plain language used, that it was not the Armenian people whose interests were to be safeguarded—that, indeed, bore no importance—where British policy was concerned. It was the land of Armenia. No other explanation is needed towards elucidating this political dogma, which so conveniently coincided with Beaconsfield's ideals and led him to carry into effect with punctuality his policy of safeguarding those British interests, though the sequel brought in its train a long series of ghastly massacres of the Armenian people. It was for the Armenians, however, in thus having their eyes opened, to adopt a settled policy which would conform with the security of their people's existence.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN RIVALRY.

In just one year from the date of Layard's despatch Russia had already become mistress of the most important part of Armenia by the right of the Treaty of San Stefano, which was ratified in the house of Dadian, a well-known Armenian family; when at the request of Nerses, the Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople, and other notable Armenians, Russia, under the 16th Article of that Treaty, stipulated as follows :—

As the evacuation by the Russian troops of the territory which they occupy in Armenia, and which is to be restored to Turkey might give rise to conflicts and complications detrimental to the maintenance of good relations between the two countries, the Sublime Porte engages to carry into effect, without further delay, the improvements and reforms demanded by local requirements in the provinces inhabited by the Armenians, and to guarantee their security from Kurds and Circassians.

* Blue Book. Sir H. Layard's despatch, May 30th, 1877.

We cannot say whether this stipulation would have guaranteed the realisation of any reforms in the other provinces which still remained under Turkish rule. Russia, however, might have remained indefinitely in the territory whose rendition was stipulated; and the Sublime Porte, judging of the possibility of this from experience, would have reconciled itself to the fate of the temporarily occupied province as an accomplished fact rather than act against its time-honoured principle of resisting any improvement in the condition of its Christian subjects.

Presumably, as Turkey understood the real meaning of the Powers' benevolence towards her suffering Christian subjects, so the Powers themselves understood each other and the measure of each other's benevolence for the poor small nations! It must be owing to this keen understanding that the Powers forced Russia to the Congress of Berlin so as to make her abdicate almost all the rights she had extorted from Turkey by the Treaty of San Stefano. And the desperate small Christian nations, who groaned under the yoke of the Sultan, were now taught and felt encouraged to turn their backs to Russia, and put their trust in England first, and then in the other Powers. By the veiled instigation of the Porte and, it is inaccurately said, by the indirect advice from the British Embassy in Constantinople, when Layard was the Ambassador, the Armenian Patriarch and his council were duped into drawing up a scheme of an impracticable autonomy for Armenia, which was to include even the province *which by force of arms was conquered by Russia and was then still in her occupation.* The Armenian delegates, armed with such a project, were openly allowed by the Sublime Porte to leave Constantinople for Europe for the purpose of asking, from the Cabinets of the Great Powers and the Congress of Berlin, for a fully autonomous Armenia. This was a diplomatic comedy, prepared by Turkey and her friends, which the anxious leaders of a sorrow-stricken people could not read through. General Loris Melikoff, who became Dictator of Russia in the last year of the reign of Alexander II, and who was an Armenian and verily understood politics, earnestly advised the Patriarch to refrain from presenting the Armenian demands before the Cabinets of the Powers and the Congress of Berlin in a project so essentially anti-Russian in its tendency. But in vain; even as now the Patriarch and his counsellors preferred, or were made, to believe in the idea that by the mighty hand of the English their historical fatherland was going to rise up, free from the talons of the Russian Eagle.

At the Congress of Berlin it was imposed upon Russia to evacuate Armenia without delay; her special rights over the Armenian reforms were censured; and to the undoing of the Armenian people, the 16th Article of the San Stefano Treaty was transformed in Berlin into the new 61st Article, in the following emptily solemn terms :—

The Sublime Porte undertakes to carry out, without further delay, the improvement, and reforms demanded by local require-

ment, in the provinces inhabited by Armenians, and to guarantee their security against the Circassians and Kurds. It will periodically make known the steps taken to this effect to the Powers, who will superintend their application.

The ex-Patriarch Khrimean, the head of the Armenian delegation, was privately received by the representatives of some of the Powers, but the Armenian memorandum and the projects were not in any way taken into official consideration by the Congress itself.

The appearance of the empty-handed delegates in their National Assembly at Constantinople gave occasion to a member of that Assembly, Thadeos Bekian, to denounce the hollowness of the enterprise, and the Patriarch Nerses, as an unconscious tool of the policy of Turkey and England against Russia, as well as against the true interest of the Armenian people. But as Nerses was considered a great patriot, Bekian was in consequence banished from the National Assembly altogether.

That England was her worst enemy, Russia was fully convinced. Now she could see that the leaders of the Armenian people were also from one day to another vacillating and ready to become tools to be used against her by her enemies. It is not surprising, therefore, that this fact should be prominently present in the mind of Russia at the time of the horrible events of 1895.

But the policy of Beaconsfield during that critical period seemed to be a tangle of intricacies having for its aim the complete disadvantage of Russia. Besides the supersession of the San Stefano Treaty—a blow to Russian victory and prestige—on the one hand, and her expulsion from Armenia on the other, Russia had still to learn that between and behind these two rebuffs the cunning son of Israel was conveniently preparing ground for getting the whole of the Asiatic territories of Turkey under the protection of England by the Convention of Constantinople, commonly known as the *Cyprus Convention*. This latter was ratified on the 4th June, 1878, while the Berlin Treaty was concluded on the 13th July, 1878.

Armenians are under a false impression in respect to the definition of the Cyprus Convention. They may have arrived at a misleading conception of it through some English advocates of the Armenian cause. Needless to say that no good can come from grieving over, or vindicating a cause on a false basis. Diplomacy is based on the greater national or State interests; it is not based on sentiment. When it plays with sentiment, it does so for its own end, but it can never be moved by pity. The Armenian people have experienced the most striking and bitter proof of this merciless theory, in 1894–1896, when the land between the Mediterranean and Ararat was reddened with the blood of their massacred countrymen. Public opinion and the Press echoed it; but diplomacy remained, or was constrained to remain, mercilessly unmoved. But the new advocates of the insuffi-

ciently understood Armenian question forgot that, if at that time the irritating of the nerves of the Turks, by raising the Armenian political claims, proved so disastrous to the Armenian people, worse would undoubtedly happen at a time when Europe was in the throes of a cataclysm and its diplomacy in a state of dislocation.

Yet, on the question of the security of the Armenian people, the earnest student will find, besides many striking precedents of the past, some genuine lessons to be imbibed from every document of the British Foreign Office which relates to the Armenian question. And it is worth while glancing here at a document written before the official existence of the Armenian question, wherein any thoughtful reader will notice that what Lord Salisbury could foresee and predict then, many of us have failed to grasp even after the realisation of the grim fact.

THE CYPRUS CONVENTION.

In consequence of Russia's ascendancy over Turkey as a result of the war, on the 30th of May, 1878, Lord Salisbury forwarded to Sir Henry Layard, the British Ambassador in Constantinople, the following most significant despatch which, at least, ought to stand in the nature of a prominent guide to those who were, and are, professing to have the welfare of the Armenian people at heart. After reviewing the political aspect of the affected provinces of European Turkey, the Foreign Secretary of England turns his comments upon the other side of the San Stefano Treaty which concerned Armenia:—

It is sufficiently manifest that in respect to Batoum and the fortresses north of the Araxes the Government of Russia is not prepared to recede from the stipulations to which the Porte has been led, by the events of the war, to consent. Her Majesty's Government have consequently been forced to consider the effect which these agreements, if they are neither cancelled nor contracted, will have upon the future of the Asiatic provinces of the Ottoman Empire and upon *the interests of England, which are closely affected by the condition of those provinces.*

It is impossible that Her Majesty's Government can look upon these changes with indifference. Asiatic Turkey contains populations of many different races and creeds, possessing no capacity for self-government and no aspiration for independence, but owing their tranquility, and whatever prospect of political well-being they possess, entirely to the rule of the Sultan. But the Government of the Ottoman dynasty is that of an ancient but still alien conqueror, resting more upon actual power than upon the sympathies of common nationality. The defeat that the Turkish arms have sustained and known embarrassments of the Government *will produce a general belief in its decadence and*

an expectation of speedy political change, which in the East are more dangerous than actual discontent, to the stability of a Government. If the population of Syria, Asia Minor, and Mesopotamia see that the Porte has no guarantee for its continued existence but its own strength, they will, after the evidence which recent events have furnished of the frailty of that reliance, begin to calculate upon the speedy fall of the Ottoman domination, and to turn their eyes towards its conqueror.

Even if it be certain that Batoum and Ardahan and Kars will not become the base from which emissaries of intrigue will issue forth, to be in due time followed by invading armies, the mere retention of them by Russia will exercise a powerful influence in disintegrating the Asiatic dominion of the Porte. As a monument of feeble defence on the one side, and successful aggression on the other, they will be regarded by the Asiatic population as foreboding the course of political history in the immediate future, and will stimulate, by combined action of hope and fear, devotion to the Power which is in the ascendent, and desertion of the Power which is thought to be falling into decay.

It is impossible for Her Majesty's Government to accept, without making an effort to avert it, the effect which such a state of feeling would produce upon regions whose political condition deeply concerns the Oriental interests of Great Britain. They do not propose to attempt the accomplishment of this object by taking military measures for the purpose of replacing the conquered districts in the possession of the Porte. Such an undertaking would be arduous and costly, and would involve great calamities, and it would not be effective for the object which Her Majesty's Government have in view. Unless subsequently strengthened by precautions which can be taken almost as effectively without incurring the miseries of a preliminary war, the only provision which can furnish a substantial security for the stability of Ottoman rule in Asiatic Turkey, and which would be as essential after the reconquest of the Russian annexations as it is now, is an engagement on the part of a Power strong enough to fulfil it, that any further encroachment by Russia upon Turkish territory in Asia will be prevented by force of arms. Such an understanding, if given fully and unreservedly, will prevent the occurrence of the contingency which would bring it into operation, and will, at the same time, give the populations of the Asiatic provinces the requisite confidence that Turkish rule in Asia is not destined to a speedy fall.

There are, however, two conditions which it would be necessary for the Porte to subscribe before England could give such assurance.

Her Majesty's Government intimated to the Porte on the occasion of the Conference at Constantinople, that they were not prepared to sanction misgovernment and oppression, and it will be requisite, before they can enter into any agreement for the defence of the Asiatic territories of the Porte in certain eventualities, that they should be formally assured of the intention of the Porte to introduce the necessary reforms into the government of the Christian and other subjects of the Porte in these regions. It is not desirable to require more than engagement in general terms; and the specific measures to be taken should only be defined after a more careful enquiry and deliberation than could be secured at the present juncture.

It is not impossible that a careful selection and a faithful support of the individual officers to whom power is to be entrusted in those countries would be a more important element in the improvement of the condition of the people than even legislative changes, but the assurance required to give England a right to insist on satisfactory arrangements for these purposes will be an indispensable part of any agreement to which Her Majesty's Government could consent. It will further be necessary in order to enable Her Majesty's Government efficiently to execute the engagements now proposed, that they should occupy a position near the coast of Asia Minor and Syria. The proximity of the British officers, and, if necessary, British troops, will be the best security that all the objects of this engagement shall be obtained. The Island of Cyprus appears to them to be in all respects the most available for this object. . . .

Inasmuch as the whole of this proposal is due to the annexations which Russia has made in Asiatic Turkey, and the consequences which it is apprehended will flow therefrom, it must be fully understood that if the cause of the danger should cease, the precautionary agreement will cease at the same time. If the Government of Russia should at any time surrender to the Porte the territory it has acquired in Asia by the recent war, the stipulations in the proposed agreements will cease to operate, and the Island will be immediately evacuated.

I request, therefore, your Excellency to propose to the Porte to agree to a convention to the following effect, and I have to convey to you full authority to conclude the same on behalf of the Queen and Her Majesty's Government.

If Batoum, Ardahan, Kars or any of them, shall be retained by Russia, and if any attempt shall be made at any future time by Russia to take possession of any further territory of His Imperial Majesty, the Sultan, in Asia, as fixed by the definitive Treaty of Peace, England engages to join His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, in defending them by force of arms.

In return, His Imperial Majesty, the Sultan, promises to England to introduce necessary reforms, to be agreed upon later between the two Powers into the Government and for the protection of the Christian and other

subjects of the Porte in these territories; and in order to enable England to make necessary provisions for executing her engagement, His Imperial Majesty, the Sultan, further consents to assign the Island of Cyprus to be occupied and administered by England.

On the 1st of July, 1878, an *Annexe* was made to the above in the following terms under Article VI:—

That if Russia restores to Turkey Kars and other conquests made by her in Armenia during the last war, the Island of Cyprus will be evacuated by England, and the Convention of the 4th of June, 1878, will be at an end.

This is the famous Cyprus Convention together with its full official explanation. The meaning and the motive of the policy of England is clear above all controversy and misunderstanding, as the reader can see. The object was not the Armenian people but Armenia itself upon which the concern of England was solely centred. It was a bloodless fight between the Powers of England and Russia for the geographical position of that country, and where the welfare of its people was taken into no real account. Yet Armenians have ever since been of the conviction that by the Cyprus Convention England was bound either to enforce reforms in Armenia or evacuate the Island of Cyprus. Many English advocates of the Armenian cause, too, have solemnly expressed themselves of the same belief, and, accordingly, in their terms condemned the British Government. But the Governments do know their business better.

A cause which involves the destiny of a people—at the full mercy of the Turks and surrounded by the most unfavourable circumstances—would naturally end in repeated disasters, if, as in this case, from its foundation it was carried on in ignorance of the true facts, and bolstered up by such inspirations of false hopes and imaginary expectations, as Lord Salisbury in the above document of 38 years ago could so far-sightedly and wisely calculate and predict.

P. TONAPETEAN.

(To be continued.)

Massacres and the United States.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions started its work in Turkey about 95 years ago. Their work has been purely religious and educational, and they have done their best to keep out of politics and revolutionary movements. But even then they have always been looked upon with suspicion, especially by the Young Turk Party, whose creed has always been "Turkey for the Turks." Now as they have planned to get rid of the Armenian question by getting rid of the Armenians, so they have made a special point of

getting rid of the American missionaries by massacring all their native preachers, teachers, and the entire community. Enver Bey has openly declared that all the missionaries would be driven out of the country, as their work had automatically come to an end.

In spite of great opposition, Turkey represents one of the most important mission fields of the American Board. Just before the war, in Asiatic Turkey there were about 120 evangelical churches, a dozen colleges with 3,500 pupils, and about 500 schools with 25,000 pupils. Their graduates were scattered all over the country as preachers, teachers, physicians, lawyers, bankers, editors, etc., their publication department published books, tracts, newspapers, etc., and scattered them broadcast over the country. Their hospitals and relief works in general have been a blessing, not only to the Christians but to the Moslems as well—there were seven or eight well-equipped hospitals in the country. Their orphanages, with the co-operation of Swiss, English and German benefactors, have cared for 40,000 or more helpless orphans. They have spent more than £100,000 yearly. During the war, when the country was infected with all kinds of diseases, they spent all their money and energy in helping suffering humanity, without distinction between Turks and Christians. Many of them found their way to Erzeroum with the troops and helped in the Red Crescent of the Turkish army. As a reward for all this, the Turks have destroyed their work of a whole century. They have carried out their plans ruthlessly and with German thoroughness. They have been so blinded with madness that they have failed to see that they were acting against the best interests of their own country.

The story of the suffering and heroism of some of these missionaries is gradually coming to light. We have already mentioned the name Miss Mary L. Graffam in connection with the Sivas refugees. The tragic story of Dr. Raynolds, the veteran missionary of Van, who had worked for years with his wife in Van, has already been told in these pages. After the Russian retreat from Van he returned to America without his wife, sick and broken hearted.

And what shall we say of those who are still there—in the land of massacres—with their friends gone, their work practically ended, and in constant danger of their lives. To this noble body of men and women, for their great sacrifices in the darkest days of the nation's trials, all Armenians are grateful.

The American papers before us give column upon column of the most ghastly narrative that can be imagined, all obtained from their own missionaries and eye-witnesses, and we can but give a very concise summary here of the damning proof that they produce of Turkish fiendishness in this twentieth century, which would seem almost incredible but for the absolute trustworthiness of the witnesses. The account before us announces the return to New York from Turkish

Armenia of sixteen missionaries, among whom are to be found the well-known names of Dr. Reynolds, Dr. and Mrs. Yarrow, and Dr. Ussher.

Dr. Yarrow is reported to have said that he himself saw a German officer directing the fire against Van ; that the Turks deliberately fired on the Mission buildings, in spite of the protection afforded to them by five American and one Red Cross flags ; and that every conceivable form of torture had been inflicted on the Armenians. The injuries inflicted upon women and children were indescribable. It was a "holy war" against Armenians, whose extermination had been vowed. The country was in a terrible state, ravaged by typhus and other epidemics, and six of their own missionaries had succumbed to these. He declared that the reports published in Europe and America were in no sense exaggerations, but much more remained to be told. Interviews with other missionaries and professors tell the same tale.

Then we have a detailed report published in America of the Committee on Armenian Atrocities, a body of eminent Americans, who have collected a mass of evidence on unimpeachable authority, which should be read by all who desire more detailed knowledge on these unsurpassed crimes than what is available in this country. The report tells of children under 15 years of age thrown into the Euphrates to be drowned ; of women forced to desert infants in arms and to leave them by the roadside to die ; of young women and girls appropriated by the Turks, thrown into harems, attacked, or else sold to the highest bidder, and of men murdered and tortured. Everything that an Armenian possesses, even to the clothes on his back, are stolen by his persecutors. The report says the use of the bastinado has been revived, high dignitaries of the Church have been hanged, families scattered to the four winds, and thousands upon thousands of defenceless, miserable persons herded together like cattle and driven into the desert lands of the empire, there to starve and die.

We owe much to the United States for their sympathy and effort towards amelioration of the conditions in Armenia. Mr. Morgenthau, the American Ambassador at Constantinople, is doing what lies in his power to bring succour to the derelict Armenians, either directly or through such of the American consuls and missionaries who are still in the interior ; and he has repeatedly asked for pecuniary assistance for the purpose from the United States. If he can save even a few of the remnants, our gratitude to him will be immeasurable.

Armenian Refugees' Relief Fund.

The wave of indignation and horror that has swept across Great Britain in connection with the treatment of Armenians in the Turkish provinces had its natural sequel in the inauguration of a National British Fund to relieve the needs of those who had succeeded in evading the vengeance of the Turk, and had found an asylum in Russian territory, though broken in body and bereft of home.

We here have struggled for many months and have not done badly in bringing together close on £10,000, which is a mere fraction of what is needed, and we welcome the inauguration of the new Fund, the Lord Mayor's, an account of which will be found elsewhere among these pages.

Though this new Fund has been started under distinguished patronage, and will no doubt rapidly overshadow our own and the Red Cross Fund, it is, nevertheless, not intended that these older Funds, which have done good work, should be closed. This refers especially to our own Fund, whose sphere of activity has extended to the English-speaking Armenian colonies of the East, and has tapped their generosity in a manner which would not have been possible without the existence of *Ararat*. Our Fund will continue, therefore, to exist, and we appeal to all, who are outside the sphere of the Lord Mayor's Fund, to exert themselves to the utmost and to send us more and more, and more. The necessity is great, it is urgent, as our pages will amply reveal ; and though most of us have given what we thought we could, we doubt not that there are many who can still spare more, and to these our words are specially directed.

The following is a statement of our account since our last issue :—

	£	s.	d.
<i>Receipts :—</i>			
Messrs. Apcar & Co., Calcutta (1st donation) ..	400	0	0
Messrs. Apcar & Co., Calcutta (2nd donation) ..	400	0	0
Armenian Colony in Burma (5th instalment) ..	100	0	0
Mr. Leon Zorayan (2nd donation) ..	2	2	0
Mrs. Heyland	1	1	0
Mr. D. M. Fox	0	10	0
Mr. R. E. Watkins	0	10	0
" B. H. W."	0	5	0
Miss L. White	0	5	0
Miss Adrienne Kessedjian	0	5	0
Mr. D. K. Chambers	0	2	0
Miss Satenik Ardontz	1	6	3
By sale of pamphlets			
Total received in October	907	7	3
Amount previously received	8,759	2	11
Grand total	£9,666	10	2

	£	s.	d.
<i>Expenditure :—</i>			
Remitted to the Catholicos to September 30th ..	8,510	0	0
Remitted during October	900	0	0
Balance in Bank	256	10	2
Grand total	£9,666	10	2

It will thus be seen that the total sum remitted through our Association to His Holiness the Catholicos now amounts to £9,410. The first donation from Messrs. Apar & Co., of Calcutta, of £400 was destined towards the relief of refugees from Van, and this special condition was communicated to His Holiness; their second donation of a similar amount was for general relief.

Donors should understand that the Bank through which we remit our funds charges no commission, because of the charitable nature of the funds; that the remittances made are telegraphic; and that at the same time that a remittance is wired by the Bank, a telegram is also sent by our Association to the Catholicos intimating the transfer, the charge for this wire being borne by the Association. The funds contributed reach, therefore, their destination intact, without deduction for expenses of any kind.

The Armenian Red Cross and Refugee Fund.

Such appalling detailed descriptions by eye-witnesses are coming to hand daily in private letters and newspapers of the plight of the refugees in the Caucasus that one is utterly aghast at the thought of so much suffering on the part of innocent people, of whom the greater number are women and children. Owing to lack of means of transit it is unfortunately *at present* not in our power to send material comforts. We can only send money and trust that the Russian markets may be able to supply necessities for it. It is impossible to get enough money to send. We hope that the Lord Mayors' Funds in London and Manchester will help very considerably to this end, as now the needs will be made more widely known. Belgium, the Armenia of Europe, is receiving bountiful help from several relief funds here, while until a few days ago our fund has been the only British one to help Armenia. In reply to the requests of many friends, both Armenian and British, it is hoped to continue the work of this fund on the same lines while the need for it lasts.

During the past month the following contributions have been received:—M. J. Fleming, £50; J. H. Buxton, £25; Mrs. Milbank, C. E. Swann, "Ignus" (per Mr. Edward Atkin), each £20; The Lord Bishop of Ely, £15; Misses Guthrie, £11 11s.; Lord Haversham, Miss Kempley, Croydon Brotherhood, lecture by W. L. Williams, each £10 10s.; Mrs. F. Simpson, Mrs. Fairfield, Mrs. Coats, W. Frain, Mrs. Grantham, Miss Culverwell, Mrs. Clements, Wm. Woodward, Thos. Harrison, each £10; Miss M. F. Hall and Miss Torey, £7 7s.; Mrs. Loveridge, £6; Rev. R. H. A. Morton, Mrs. Toovey and family,

each £5 15s.; Mrs. Wyman and Walter H. Dixon, each £5 5s.; Major E. Atkin, Rev. W. S. Page, Hon. Mrs. Parker, John S. Gibb, F. W. Pennefather, Anon., Mrs. Edna G. Wills, "A. E. D. R.," Miss Robins, Lieut.-Col. S. C. Sarkies, Mrs. Henry R. Heywood, Miss Mills, Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Bunting, Canon Trow, T. W. Toovey, A Reader of the "Challenge," Elijah Kirkpatrick (2nd donation), W. Davidson, J.P. (2nd donation), "Scotch Banknote," Mrs. Street, Miss Kelly, F. L. Wilder, Baronian & Co., "S. C.," Miss C. E. Wynne Edwards, Miss Maud Lindsay, Rev. Peter D. Gray, Robert A. Yellowless, Lord Salvesen, Miss Hester Threlfall, J. Walter Higgin, Rev. Dr. Ruddock, Misses Greg, Hon. Mrs. Scott, Miss A. L. Bolton, Lady Beatrice Lister Kaye, Mrs. Pilkington, Rev. Lionel T. Purcell, Mrs. Henning, Misses Hope, Miss Stephens, each £5; Edith, Lady Auckland, £4 4s.; B. Rix, £4; Miss Hewlett, Rev. J. M. Creed, S. B. Sukias, Miss S. Candler, R. M. Murdoch, each £3 3s.; Mrs. Hoare, Mrs. T. King, Mrs. E. W. Cropper and daughters, Miss S. Chinnock, Mrs. Cocksedge, each £3; "J. H. A.," £2 10s.; Misses Hare and Laslett, E. Robert Schiess, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. M. T. Watson, Mrs. Whitefoord, J. L. Stokes, Mrs. Moon, F. G. Nott Bower, Joseph Hall, Miss Phyllis Debenham, Miss S. Garforth, each £2 2s.; Rev. H. S. Briggs, Mrs. Hoare, J. P. Edwards, Miss B. Brown, Misses Schetky (2nd donation), Miss E. S. Edwards, Misses Cornish, Samuel Harper, Mrs. Williams, Miss Dorothy F. Glover, Miss J. S. Jones (3rd donation), "J. F. A. B.," Miss A. R. Pattisson, Miss W. Burd, "H. W. B.," C. Field, Mrs. Alexander, Major Coppin, Mrs. Cobbe, Lieut.-Col. E. R. W. Carroll, Mrs. O'Brien, Miss E. Nichols, Miss H. Cooke, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Rippon, Mrs. Knowles, Canon Hawkins, Mrs. Lawson, E. Brooke, Miss Rachel Bell, Miss Aline Bell, Miss E. Smith, W. Whitaker, Mrs. Havelock, Miss Hockin, Staff of District Goods Manager's Office, L.N.W.R., London Road, Manchester (2nd donation), each £2; Miss A. Fowler, Mrs. and Miss Thompson and Rev. O. H. Thompson, Miss Alice E. Fowler (2nd donation), each £1 10s.; Misses Vizard, £1 2s. 6d.; Miss M. E. Dallaway, Leon Zorayan, Mrs. Goodrich, Mrs. Salter, L. M. A. Gore Browne, E. Taylor, Mrs. Bentley, R. Bauld, E. S. Adeney, Mrs. Cumming, Miss L. Featherstone, Mrs. Thursfield, Miss P. Walter, Mrs. Phillips, Bishop Knight, Miss Lætitia Sharpe, Miss Nesbitt, Mrs. J. S. Hough, Collins, Henry Malpas, Mrs. St. John Dick, J. R. Cochrane, Anon., Miss Beatrice Parsons, W. A. Sanday, Miss E. Wilkinson, Mrs. Michell, Hyatt Woolf, Miss J. Bourdillon, Mrs. S. Whittell, Harry Dunlop, Miss Florence Pate, Mrs. Moriarty, Mrs. Snapp, Miss Fraser, Mrs. Kinsey Peile, Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Huntington, Miss E. Carter, Miss Mary Floyd, Miss Gourlay, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Jones, Mrs. Cummins, Miss Octavia Paterson, Mrs. and Miss Egerton, R. Spink, Mrs. Spark, Rev. W. E. Emmet, Miss E. Stafford Reade, Mrs. Bus, Lady Willoughby de Broke, each £1 1s.; Mrs. Gamlen, Mrs. E. S. Lister, Alfred T. Pennell, Miss J. Christy, R. M. Boodle, Miss Hutchin, Miss Horley, Mrs. Cowper, James Leader, Miss L. M. Thornton (collected), W. F.

Levey, Mrs. Alice Champ, Mrs. G. M. Sawrey, Miss E. M. Ellis, Miss M. Steedman, E. H. Visiak (2nd donation), Mr. and Mrs. Round, Mrs. Weekes, Hoyt Metal Co., Mrs. E. F. James, Mrs. and Miss A. Blundell, Charles Linder, Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Pyrak, W. A. Town (2nd donation), Mrs. Holthouse, Mrs. Kunoss, Mrs. Gardiner (2nd donation), Mrs. Way, Miss Brown, Rev. Harold Morton, Rev. Basil E. G. Shelley, Miss Mabel Coates, Mrs. Douglas, Miss Grace Dumbleton, Miss Shepherd, Miss E. G. Bolton, Mrs. T. W. King, Miss Whitaker, Mrs. Selina Davis, H. M. Spencer, "F. W.," Rev. A. J. K. Martyn, J. and A. Bolton, per Mrs. Pumphrey, Anon., Dr. and Mrs. G. Edgelow, Arthur C. Champneys, Miss M. D. Roberts, Mrs. Toulmin, Mrs. Jason, Mrs. A. Winifred Cross, Mrs. Cumming, D. James, Miss Henry, Mrs. Morton, Mrs. Linden, Miss Fuller, Mrs. Tucker, Miss L. E. Haslam, Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Thalia E. Humphris, Mrs. Reid, Miss Emily Vere Annesley, Miss Morgan, Miss Bush, Mrs. Marsden, The Sisters, St. Mary's, Dundee, Mrs. Lewis Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, Miss M. A. Anderson, Mrs. Pickersgill, Dr. R. Kingston Fox, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Winterne, Mrs. Howell Smith, Mrs. Chauntrell, Miss M. D. Shannon, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Parsons, Miss Sidney, Miss Alice Woodhouse, Mrs. Greaves, "X. Z. L.," J. Brill, Mrs. Eyles Gordon, D. Fyfe, Miss Zoe Hope, Mrs. Still, Miss Johnston, Mrs. Henry Bayly, Miss Turner, Mr. T. R. Coxon, Mrs. Chester, J. Houghton Hague, Miss K. Macdonald, A. Haigh, Miss Perks, Misses Rowlatt, M. Taylor, Miss Edith Wallace, Miss L. M. Bailey, Miss Therese M. Kremnitz, Miss D. M. Wild, Mrs. Fraser, William Sugden, "Rev. J. F. F. F.," S. B. Sukias (collected), Miss Stableforth, Miss J. Grimond, each £1; and very many smaller amounts.

Our hearty thanks are due to the following, who have most kindly sent donations from their offertories:—Rev. G. Grylls, Pastor G. H. Way, Rev. G. S. Pardoe, Rev. Albert Smith, S. Leonard's Church, Lasswade, Rev. A. P. Wayte, Men's Hall Clevedon; and also to all the ladies and gentlemen who are so kindly collecting money for the Fund, which now totals £3,336 16s.

Many of the contributions are accompanied by touching letters containing expressions of deepest sympathy and indignation. Unfortunately space does not permit us to reproduce them here.

The sum of £105 has been handed over to the Armenian Refugees (Lord Mayor's) Fund, which has recently been opened.

A most kind letter has just come from a firm of London merchants offering to send boots and to collect other clothing for Armenian refugees.

The Mayor of Archangel wrote saying our five cases of garments had arrived safely, and that he was merely awaiting the official permit to send them on to Tiflis.

Some specially nice garments have been received from Mrs. Gerald G. P. Heywood, the Countess Dowager of Bradford, Miss

Monica Heywood, Mrs. Stewart of Culgruff, Miss Mercer, Miss Wilhelmina Duncan, Mrs. Bazett, Miss J. Wenham, Miss Hebden, Mrs. Johnson, etc., etc.

Will the kind friends who are working for us please remember that there are four times the number of people to be provided for that there were last winter and help accordingly.

According to the official estimate the sum of £50,000 is required for the *immediate needs* of the refugees.

Contributions to the Fund may be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Miss E. J. Robinson, at 35A, Elsham Road, Kensington, London, W., to whom also all communications respecting the Fund should be addressed.

EMILY J. ROBINSON.

Local Jottings.

CALCUTTA.

Our post-box is fairly full this month with communications from the Far East, and we shall do our best to satisfy our correspondents to the extent our pages will admit. The annexed letter is written in appreciation of Bishop Kevork Tourian, of Trebizonde, who was reported in our August issue as having been handed over for trial by Turkish court-martial. We have heard the worst rumours of his subsequent fate, but for want of corroborative testimony we would hesitate for the present to give support to the news that has reached us:—

To the Editor of ARARAT.

SIR,

We have read here of the summoning of the Bishop of Trebizonde, Kevork Vardapet Tourian, to Erzeroum, to be tried there by the military authorities. It is not stated of what charges he stands accused. Charges there may be none, but what of that? Turkish officials can concoct them without the slightest hesitation. It is indeed their policy to wipe off the Armenian race by massacring the masses, and publicly hanging its *leaders*—as the Turks call them—in Constantinople. These devilish acts of the Turks are no doubt due to their realisation that it is their last chance of playing at massacre, and they are simply drinking the cup to its dregs, in co-operation with their German masters, who must, equally with the Turks, answer for their crimes before the tribunal of God.

Yes, Tourian is one of their captures—and we know not whether he still lives. Mr. K. G. Tourian—as he was called when the writer knew him—was brought out to Calcutta from Cairo, to join the Calcutta Armenian College as Principal. He took up his duties in 1907, and during the four or five years of his tenure of office he brought the school to a high pitch of efficiency. As a student under him, I, together with the rest of my contemporaries, appreciate his value as no others can; and should the worst have befallen him, we would count it as a personal loss. It is a terrible experience for us that men of thought in our nation, among whom Tourian had distinctly his place, are being gradually eliminated under Turkish methods. He was a man of energy and a gentleman in every sense—"one of the best educated youths of Turkish Armenia," as was stated by one of the masters of the school at the time of his engagement.

He was an M.A., and an M.D. of Cambridge. He left Calcutta for England, and we subsequently came to know of his successful endeavours to introduce modern Armenian into the curriculum of the Cambridge Local Examinations. His suggestion was adopted, much to the benefit of our school, which was thus brought into line with other European Institutions of Calcutta. His connection with the Armenian College was severed while he was in England; but he took up a calling which was truly adapted to his high ideals—that of serving his Church. He was soon after consecrated a bishop—his one ambition, as I well know from what he let drop while he was Principal of our College.

At the beginning of the Great War, there was a rumour of his being sent to take charge of the See of Julfa, in Persia, but the conditions obtaining in Armenia brought about a change in his appointment, with what result we now know.

Sir, I write this to express the solicitude of his past students, whose one prayer is that his life has been spared—he whose like for energy, consideration and tact it would be difficult to find.

With many thanks for publishing this letter.

Yours,

Calcutta, Sept. 10th, 1915.

"ME HIE."

The following letter describes the progress of the Relief Fund in Calcutta :—

To the Editor of ARARAT.

SIR,

In my last communication which appeared in the July issue of your valuable monthly, I wrote that, in view of the monstrous atrocities and wholesale massacres perpetrated by the brutal and fanatical Turks and Kurds on the defenceless inhabitants, and the dire distress and privations of the tens of thousands of destitute refugees, an Armenian Relief Fund had been organised in the

Premier City of India. I further stated that when the subscriptions reached the total of Rs. 55,000 (the liberal donation of Rs. 15,000 by Messrs. Apar & Co. being included), the Rev. Garegin Johannes, the Hon. Secretary of the Fund, published a pathetic appeal in the columns of the *Statesman*, describing the critical state of affairs in Armenia, converted into a veritable field of carnage, and depicting vividly the terrible condition of the hundred thousand homeless and helpless Armenian refugees, and the eminent rôle played by the numerous Armenian contingents fighting heroically in conjunction with the Russian Caucasian army for the success of the Allied cause.

After the publication of the above appeal, the reverend gentleman, brushing aside his own convenience, commenced personally to apply to the leading European mercantile firms of this city. Though occasionally his appeals have met with refusal, he is still continuing his commendable work, and up to now a satisfactory result has been attained. (Here a list is given of the names of 19 firms who have subscribed altogether Rs. 18,250. We omit this list, as the subscriptions have already appeared in the periodical lists we have published.—ED., *Ararat*.)

The Armenian community of Dacca and Naraingunge have sent the handsome sum of Rs. 3,600, and seven Armenians from distant Peshawar have sent a contribution of Rs. 185. A Scotch lady from Simla, prompted by humanitarian feelings, has written a very touching letter, enclosing Rs. 50 as a first donation and expressing sympathy with an ancient and historic nation which, through the long ages of its chequered history, has suffered cruel martyrdoms and passed through severe trials and tribulations.

On the 20th instant, the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund remitted by cable the sum of £1,200 to His Holiness the Catholicos, through the Armenian United Association of London. The first instalment of £800 was sent direct to Etchmiadzin by draft, the receipt of which has been acknowledged by wire.

On the 18th instant an interesting function took place at the Armenian Club, where a Concert was given in aid of the Armenian Relief Fund through the praiseworthy initiative of Miss Margaret A. Stephen. Great credit is due to the Armenian and English ladies and gentlemen who bestowed their talents for this charitable purpose, the programme including songs, piano solos and duets, recitations, etc. The attendance was good and the renderings of the programme well appreciated. Perhaps the Hall might have been a bit larger. It is hoped that in future Concerts for this purpose, a few Armenian items will also be included in the programme.

AN OBSERVER.

Calcutta, Sept. 24th, 1915.

We give below a further list of contributors to the Armenian Relief Fund (Calcutta):—

12th List.—Amount previously acknowledged, Rs. 49,578-14; per Mr. Thaddeus S. Nahapiet, Warden of the Armenian Church of Dacca, from the Armenian Community of Dacca and Naraingunge, Rs. 3,600; Messrs. Turner Morrison and Co., Ltd., Rs. 1,000; Messrs. Martin and Co., Rs. 1,000; Messrs. Begg Dunlop and Co., Rs. 1,000; Messrs. Jessop and Co., Ltd., Rs. 500; Messrs. Octavius Steel and Co., Rs. 500; Messrs. H. V. Low and Co., Rs. 250; Messrs. Landale and Clark, Rs. 250; Mrs. I. M. Stewart (from Simla), first donation, Rs. 50; A Japanese Friend, Rs. 20; Anonymous, Rs. 10; from Madhapore: C. Mathews, Rs. 25; S. M. Simon, Rs. 5; A. Jasper, Rs. 5; S. G. Minas, Rs. 2; Miss G. Minas, Rs. 2; Miss Arathocn, Rs. 2. Grand total, Rs. 57,799-14.

All contributions to the above Fund are being received by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Stephen, 2, Camac Street, Calcutta.

The Armenian community of Calcutta has sustained a loss by the death of Mr. A. St. John Stephen, which occurred in Calcutta in the early part of September. He came from a well-known Dacca family and was very popular and highly esteemed by both Europeans and Indians; while his geniality and kindly disposition procured for him a large circle of friends.

He was educated at Harrow and Cambridge, where he passed as a Wrangler, taking the degrees of B.A. and LL.B., and was called to the English Bar. After his call in 1880, he returned to India and was admitted as an Advocate of the Calcutta High Court in the same year. He was intimately associated with the late Sir Gregory Charles Paul (also an Armenian), Advocate-General of Bengal, as well as several of his successors, thereby gaining an insight into the legislative enactments of the Government of India which was unique and made his opinion on these matters much valued. He took a leading part in the management of the Armenian Philanthropic Academy of Calcutta, which he in no small degree aided in bringing to its present high state of efficiency. He had also held the appointments of Examiner of Law and Mathematics at the Calcutta University. Mr. Stephen had a wide commercial practice, and he was also interested in industrial enterprise, especially in the coal industry, in which he held several directorships.

Mr. Justice Greaves, of the Calcutta High Court, paid a well-merited tribute to his memory at the first sitting of the court after his death became known; while the large gathering from all communities to pay their last respects to him bore eloquent testimony to his popularity. He died at the age of 58.

British Parliament and Press on Armenia.

The British Press during the last month has been flooded with articles on the ghastly plight of the Armenian people, and if we gave but one-tenth of such quotations, which are all couched in the most sympathetic terms, our allotted pages for the month would scarcely be sufficient to contain them. We will content ourselves, therefore, by reporting the proceedings in Parliament, and giving a few only of the most important of the original articles bearing on the subject.

The following question and statements are taken from the proceedings in the House of Lords on October 6th:—

THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

The EARL OF CROMER rose to ask (1) Whether his Majesty's Government had received any information confirmatory of the statements made in the Press to the effect that renewed massacres of Armenians had taken place on a large scale; (2) whether the statements made that German Consular officials had been privy to these massacres rested on any substantial evidence; and (3) whether any further communications had recently been addressed to the Porte in connection with this subject. He said:—The country has been shocked by accounts of renewed Armenian massacres which appear to have begun again on an even greater scale than those which horrified the whole civilised world a few years ago. I read in one paper that the number of victims amounted to 800,000. The figures appear incredible, and I hope are very much exaggerated. It has been stated in the papers that some of the German Consular officials have been approving these atrocities to the extent even of organising and encouraging massacres. Here, again, it seems almost incredible that any Government calling itself civilised or its agents should be parties to such proceedings. On the other hand we know from the report of Lord Bryce what was the conduct of the German Army in Belgium, and we also know from the scathing indictment of the French Government what has been the conduct of the Germans in France. Moreover, apart from what might be the opinion of the German Government, we have some evidence and the opinion of a distinguished journalist.

Just before I came to the House I read in an evening paper an extract from a letter addressed by the notorious Count Reventlow to a German newspaper, and it was so very remarkably characteristic of German views on this subject that I will read a small portion of it:—

“If the Turkish authorities take vigorous measures against unreliable, bloodthirsty, riotous Armenian elements, it is not only

right, but even their duty to do so. Turkey can always be assured that the German Empire will always be of opinion that this matter only concerns Turkey."

I do not suppose that there will be any trustworthy evidence to prove the complicity of the German Government or their agents in these massacres. But when we consider the commanding influence of the German Government at Constantinople anyone who knows the East will be of opinion that the German Government cannot be acquitted of a vast moral responsibility unless it can be shown that knowing of these practices they took most vigorous and energetic steps to stop these proceedings. I shall be the last at the present juncture to wish to ask questions about foreign affairs which might cause embarrassment to the Government, but I feel that the noble marquess will agree with me that in this particular case the utmost publicity is highly desirable. It is very desirable to lose no opportunity to let the people of this country know for what we are fighting. We are fighting for a great many things, and one of the objects which we desire to attain is that Armenia shall no longer be constituted a sort of Turkish shambles.

We have to remember that we have 70 million Mahomedan fellow subjects, who naturally have a certain amount of sympathy with their co-religionists, and would be unwilling to believe ill of them unless they had positive proof. I believe that all the educated Mahomedans of India would look with as great horror as we do ourselves upon the proceedings of the Turkish Government. Only they ought to have information laid before them on which to form an opinion, and when they have that information I do not doubt that they will see that it would be almost tantamount to an insult to the Mahomedan religion and to the feelings of all right-thinking Mahomedans if they in any way identified the cause of Islam with the cause of the existing Government at Constantinople, and also it would be very desirable to enlighten Egyptian opinion.

AN UNNATURAL ALLIANCE.

We have heard in the last few days that a very important Near Eastern community, under the auspices of a Prince of foreign extraction and strong pro-German proclivities, is about to commit not only a grave political error, but also one of the blackest acts of political ingratitude that the history of the world has ever known. (Cheers.) I do not suppose that anything we can say here is likely to reach the Bulgarian people, and if I am rightly informed, the greater part of the Press of that country is in German hands. At the same time we ought to do all in our power to show the Bulgarians what measure is being meted out to another Christian community by those with whom they are about to enter into a most unnatural alliance. The

Bulgarians themselves have suffered in the past so severely from Turkish rule that it is almost inconceivable that they should not extend some sympathy to these poor Armenians who are suffering in parts of the Ottoman dominions.

I have never been a Turkophobe. I admire and recognise the manly, virile qualities of the Turkish nation and I think that at this particular juncture many of them are to be pitied. I believe that if the Turks were left to themselves they would wish to live at peace with the rest of the world and especially with England. Unfortunately they have fallen into the hands of a narrow clique who have undermined the real independence of the Ottoman Empire. But whatever can be said in defence of the Turkish nation, not one word can be said in defence of the Turkish Government.

It appears that the present Turkish Government, equally with their predecessors, have made government by massacre part of their political system. If that is so, if we cannot do anything else, we can denounce their conduct to the whole of the civilised world, and we may warn all other races, whether Christian, Mahomedan, or Hindu, that by showing sympathy with Turkey they will in the eyes of posterity have acquired a stain that can never be removed. (Hear, hear.)

LORD CREWE'S REPLY.

The MARQUESS OF CREWE.—I agree entirely with the noble earl that as far as we are in possession of officially confirmed facts they should be made known to the world at large.

Statements have been published in a newspaper in Tiflis, where there is, of course, every opportunity of ascertaining what the actual facts really are. They are of the most deplorable character. His Majesty's Consul at Batum, quoting from the Tiflis Press, describes the appalling horrors which have taken place at Sassoon, where the population were absolutely exterminated, only a few being able to escape. The whole country was completely ravaged. A certain number of well-known inhabitants succeeded in escaping to the mountains, but the slaughter of those who could not so escape was universal. Then there has been a great influx of Armenian, Chaldean, and other refugees into Urumiah and the Caucasian provinces. A vast number of refugees have arrived at Etchmiadzin and at other points of the Government of Erivan. They came chiefly from the mountainous districts of Melazgerd and from Van. The Consul states that about 160,000 of these have passed through Igdir and Etchmiadzin. He gives a most horrible description of their condition, ravaged by disease, many of them starving. They have been dying at the rate of at least 100 a day. Nothing could be said in too high praise of the efforts which have been made locally to cope with this

hideous condition of things, but very much larger supplies of medical comforts and of foodstuffs are needed if the condition of the refugees is to be materially relieved. Then at Elenovka and Ahti there are about 9,000 refugees, who are no better placed than the others. It is said in one report that unless relief be forthcoming it is feared that half of them will probably die. There is also a miserable account of the refugees in Urumiah—I have not got the exact number, but they are very numerous. The Russian Consul there is doing what he can to assist them.

NEMESIS.

These are the appalling facts, and I heartily concur in what fell from the noble earl opposite when he stated that dreadful excesses such as these are not less revolting to Moslem subjects of his Majesty in India and to enlightened Musulman opinion everywhere than they are to ourselves. (Hear, hear.) They are, of course, in no way authorised by the precepts of Islam, and they will not be condoned by the judgment of Islam. I also agree that these stories might well go to the heart of any European people or section of people who are disposed to join their fortunes with Turkey. The Government have no official confirmation of the statements which have been made that the German Consular representatives in Asia have not merely looked on but have positively encouraged these horrors. This statement has, however, been freely made by United States observers, who are in a position to form an opinion, and, knowing what we know elsewhere, we are bound to say that there could not be said to be any antecedent improbability that such is the case. The statement that when the day of reckoning arrives the individuals who have perpetrated or taken part in them will not be forgotten still holds good, but the Government have not thought that any advantage would be gained from an attempt to make either direct or indirect communication with the Turkish Government. They are in possession of our views, and to reiterate them would, we think, serve no useful purpose.

DETAILS OF MASSACRES.

VISCOUNT BRYCE.—Such information as has reached me from many quarters goes to show that that which the noble earl thought incredible, that 800,000 people had been destroyed since May last, is unfortunately quite a possible number. The massacres are the result of a policy which, so far as can be ascertained, has been absolutely premeditated for a considerable time by the gang who are now in possession of the Government of the Turkish Empire. They hesitated to put it into practice until the moment came, and the favourable moment seems to have come about the month of May. That was the time when orders were issued and these orders came down in every case from Constantinople. In some cases the Governors, being pious

and humane men, refused to carry out the orders and endeavoured to give what protection they could to the unfortunate Armenians. In two cases I have heard of the Governors having been dismissed for refusing to carry out the orders. The massacres nevertheless were carried out.

The procedure was exceedingly systematic. The whole population of a town was cleared out. Men were thrown into prison, the rest of the men, and the women and children were marched out of the town. When they had got some little distance they were separated, the men being taken to places where the soldiers dispatched them by shooting or bayoneting. The women and children and older men were sent off under convoy of the lower kind of soldiers to their distant destination, which was sometimes one of the unhealthy districts, but more frequently the large district which extends to the east of Aleppo, in the direction of the Euphrates. They were driven by the soldiers day after day; many fell by the way and many died of hunger. No provision was given them by the Turkish Government, and they were robbed of everything they possessed, and in many cases the women were stripped naked and marched along in that condition. Many women went mad and threw away their children, being unable to carry them farther. The caravans' route was marked by a line of corpses, and comparatively few seem to have arrived at their destination.

THE MASSACRE IN TREBIZOND.

The facts as to the slaughter in Trebizond were vouched for by the Italian Consul, who was there at the time. Orders came from Constantinople that all the Armenian Christians in Trebizond were to be killed. Many of the Musulmans tried to save their Christian neighbours and offered them shelter in their houses; but the Turkish authorities were implacable. Obeying the orders which they had received, they hunted out all the Christians, gathered them together, and drove them down the streets to the sea. They were all put on board sailing boats, carried out some distance into the Black Sea, and there thrown overboard and drowned. The whole Armenian population of from 8,000 to 10,000 was destroyed in that way in one afternoon. After that any other story becomes credible, and I regret that all the stories contain similar elements of horror, intensified in some cases by stories of shocking torture. Nearly the whole nation has been wiped out, and I do not think there is any case in history, certainly not since the days of Tamerlane, in which any crime so hideous and upon so large a scale has been recorded.

I would like to add that what little I have heard confirms what was said by the noble earl, that there is no reason to believe that in this case Musulman fanaticism came into play at all. So far as I can

make out, these events have been viewed by Musulmans with horror rather than with sympathy; at any rate, they have never shown approval of the conduct of the Turkish Government. It is of some importance, in view of the excuses which the German Government have already begun to give for the conduct of their friends and allies, to remember that there is no ground for the suggestion that there had been any rising on the part of the Armenians. There is no excuse whatever upon any political ground for the Turkish Government's action. It was simply an attempt to carry out the maxim once enunciated by the Sultan Abdul Hamid that "the way to get rid of the Armenian question was to get rid of the Armenians." It had been carried out far more thoroughly and with far more bloodthirsty completeness by the present heads of the Turkish Government than ever it was in the time of Abdul Hamid.

PRESSURE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

There are still, I believe, a few cases of Armenians living in the mountains and defending themselves as best they can, and about 5,000 Armenians have been taken to Egypt by a French cruiser. The whole race, therefore, is not yet extinct. I am sure we all wish that every effort should be made to send help to the unfortunate refugees in the mountains. (Hear, hear.) I have not been able to obtain any authentic information regarding the part taken by German officials in prompting or encouraging the acts of the Turks; but I think I can say that the only chance of saving the unfortunate remnants of this Christian nation is to be found in the expression of the public opinion of the world, and especially that of Christian nations, which may possibly exert some influence even upon the German Government, and induce them to take some step by which the massacres could be arrested—to tell the Turks that they had gone too far, and that there were some things which the public opinion of the world would not tolerate. (Cheers.)

Then we have the question put in the House of Commons by Mr. Aneurin Williams on Oct. 12th, and Sir Edward Grey's answer:—

THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

In reply to Mr. ANEURIN WILLIAMS (Durham, N.W., L.),

SIR E. GREY (Northumberland, Berwick) said:—All the information on the subject of the massacres of Armenians in Turkey in the possession of his Majesty's Government was contained in the statement made by the Marquess of Crewe in reply to a question put by the Earl of Cromer on October 6. I can only refer the hon. member to that statement. It goes farther than is usual in reply to a question

in this House, and I therefore do not propose to read it to the House. There can be but one feeling of horror and indignation about what has been done.

And on October 21st there appears the following question and answer:—

In reply to COMMANDER BELLAIRS (Maidstone, U.), who asked questions as to the massacre of Christians in Armenia, LORD R. CECIL said he did not know what steps neutral Governments may have taken in the matter. The Vatican had made earnest and repeated appeals both to the Turkish Government to stop the massacres and to the German and Austro-Hungarian Governments to bring pressure to bear on the Turkish Government with the same object.

And then again in *The Times* of Oct. 8th we have a letter from Sir Valentine Chirol, and a leading article, both of which we give below:—

THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—Lord Bryce seems still to hope that the public opinion of the world may have some effect upon the German Government, and induce it to stay the deliberate massacre of the Armenian people by its Turkish allies. But surely Lord Bryce cannot have forgotten that the original pact between William II and the Sultan Abdul Hamid, of which the present fighting alliance between Berlin and Constantinople is the direct outcome, was itself sealed with Armenian blood. May I quote what I wrote on the subject more than nine years ago in *Blackwood's Magazine* for September, 1906:—

"It had been reserved to the Emperor William to do public homage to the Sultan as the spiritual head of Islam. In the spring of 1898, whilst Abdul Hamid's hands were still red with the blood of tens of thousands of unfortunate Armenian Christians—men, women, and children—slaughtered wholesale, not only in remote provinces of the Empire, but in his own capital, the German Emperor paid a State visit to Constantinople, and thence to Syria, where, after a somewhat theatrical pilgrimage to the holiest shrines of Christendom, he delivered himself at Damascus of an astounding speech in which he proclaimed *urbi et orbi* that 'the 300,000,000 Mahomedans who, dwelling dispersed throughout the East, reverence in his Majesty the Sultan Abdul

this kind," and to assure the Turks that "the public opinion of the German Empire holds that this matter concerns the Turkish Empire alone." It is their duty, he tells them, as well as their right, to take drastic action against untrustworthy, blood-sucking, riotous Armenians, and no question ought to arise of the German Empire's interposing, on the suggestion of a third Power, "in the internal affairs of our Turkish Ally."

The Government have "no official information that German Consular representatives have encouraged the massacres." It is not likely that they would have such information. But, in view of this frank defence of the wrong done, of Count Bernstorff's successful attempt to procure the dismissal of the Turkish official who first informed the State Department in Washington of the atrocities, and of his light-hearted assurance that either they are "non-existent" or that they are "of military necessity," we must agree with Lord Crewe that reports of the kind cannot be dismissed as improbable. Baron von Oppenheim and the German officials at Aleppo and Alexandretta are expressly charged with preaching massacre in the article we print elsewhere. The German and Austro-Hungarian Ambassadors did indeed protest in August against the conduct which Count Reventlow justifies in the name of the German people, but the value of the protest is somewhat impaired by their application to the Porte for a written declaration that their Governments have no connection with the crimes. No certificate of that kind, even if Talaat condescends to give it them, can clear their Sovereigns, their Governments, or their peoples from the moral responsibility for what has been done. That responsibility, so far as the German Emperor is concerned, we are reminded by Sir Valentine Chirol, dates back to His Majesty's famous visit to AbdulHamid shortly after the Armenian butchery of 1896. It cannot be disclaimed. Nobody who knows the East can doubt that Germany had but to raise her hand in Constantinople to prevent or to stay the present massacres. She did not raise it, and all the world draws the inevitable inference from the fact. Count Reventlow confirms the inference. Germany condones massacre in Asia Minor, as she has perpetrated massacre in Belgium and in France, provided it is committed for "reasons of State."

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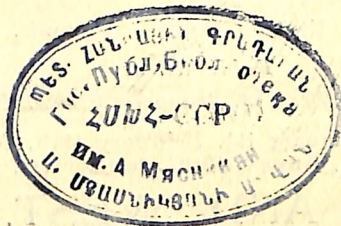
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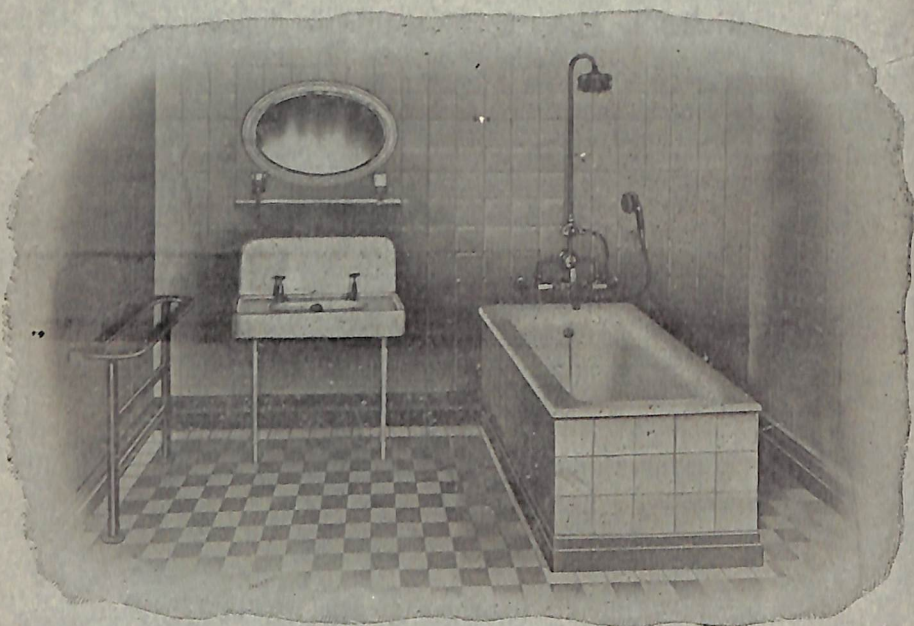
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